Book for Recording Testimonies, belonging to the Yearly Meeting of Rhode Island for New England.

Ts. and Ms.
Men
Women
Testimonies
1761-1841.
EARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS
FOR NEW ENGLAND

£ A. 10

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+ 25 Moses Farnum 1780 approved by the Quarterly & yearly Meeting
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A Breif account of the Life and Death of our
Worthy friend Nicholas Davis
he was Born at Sandwich ye 28 of ye 8th mo 1690
but Lived the bigest part of his Days at Dartmouth
and Rochester, he came forth with a Living Testimony
in the Ministry before he was twenty years Old,
in which he Grew Very fast and Soon Became Anable
Skillfull Minister of the Gospel Dividing the word of
Truth aright, he was Somthing Severe against
Obstinate offenders, but to those under affliction his
words was as healing Balsom, and his Speach as the
Dew of heaven on the tender plants, he strove to
Live in Peace with all men, and Generally well Beloved
by those with whome he was Acquainted Especially
his Neighbours, and more Especially his friends of
the Same Denomination, he Travels prety much in
Visiting his friends in NewEngland and was very
Serviceable in Building of them up in the Most holy
faith and was made instrumental in Convincing Some
of the Blessed truth, he was a Zealous Attender of both
first Day and week Day Meetings, and all ways Observ-
ed to be there in Good Season, a great Lover of honest
hearted friends, but all ways Abhored hipocisy in any,
he traveled twice into the westward parts of North Amaria
in the Service of truth, one he went so far as North Carolina
where he made a general visit amoung Friends, his
Service according to the best Accounts we have was Very
well Accepted, Before he preceded on his Last Journy
into them parts, we well Remember he Appeared to be
quite Resigned and given up to the will of God, and
was weaned Very much from the things of this world,
he took with him for his Companion his worthy
friend and kindsman Adam Mott,

They were kindly Received by friends where Ever they Came, and their Service was very kindly Accepted by the honest hearted, as Appears by the Certificates from Several Monthly Meetings in them parts where they Traveled, as well as from a Testimony from the Quarterly Meeting of Chesterfield in Burlington County in West Jerseys, after they had Visited Pensilvania and the Adjasent parts, they proceeded on their Journey for Oblong, where they Arived safe and Visited Several Meetings there abouts, he was taken Sick of a fevour at the House of William Rysbel, his Distemper increased Very fast, there were Several Physicians improved but to no purpose, it Seames the Service the Lord had for him was done and Designed to Remove him out of a troublesom World into one free from the Disquietudes that attends this where there is perfect peace forevermore,
While he had the free Exercise of his Understanding he often would be speaking of the Concern he had for the prosperity of the truth, he bore his pain with Great Patience and Resignation Even to his Last Moments, in a letter wrote to his Wife in the time of his Sickness we find something to this effect Viz) I feal a degree of willingness to be submissive to the will of God whether in Life or Death, and do much Desire thou may be made patiant and Submissive to his will, and Greatly Desire thou in an Especial Manner be very Carefull towards the Education of our Children, to bring them up in the Nurture and Admonition of the Lord, that they may be kept out of Rude Misconducted Unchristian Like young peoples Company. Endevouring at Sutable times to Instill into their Minds a Principal of patience temperance Meekness and

Soberiety that they may be made fitt Vessels for the Holy Goft to Dwell in. In Anather Letter wrote in the time of his Sickness to his Children we find those words Viz) I hereby let you know that as I am Doubtfull wheather I shall Ever See you more, there Rests Something on my Mind to write to you by way of Advice I Greatly Desire may not be forgotten, and that is as you have a Tender Affectionate Mother who is Desireous you may do well, Therefore Dear Children be Obediant to her in all things in the Lord, and Submitt to her Counsell and Advice at all Times in Love to her, and also Endeavour to Live in Love and peace one with Another at all times and Let not any Contentious or hard thoughts arise one against Another by any means, but be helpfull one to Another, and be Exceeding Carefull to attend weak Day Meetings, and incourage Others also and indevour to Let all things be in good order in the Church, he would some times in the time of his Sickness which was Short Desire those about him to be Still and Quiate, that they might have a time to wait on the Lord in Silence, and he would Some times Open his Mouth in prayer and Supplication in a living and powerfull manner, and Somtimes Gave those that Stood by a word of Exhortation and advice in the Same Life and power, thus he finished his Corse and Departed this Life at Oblong at the house of William Rusel the 10th Mo 1765 in the Sixty fifth year of his Age and we Believe is Entered into that Region of Light where the Weary are at Rest: he bore a publick Testimony upwards of forty Six Years and hath Left behind him an Unblemmished Character

Signed in and by Order of our Quarterly Meeting at Sandwich this 30 Day of 3 Mo 1761 by Ebenezar Allen Clerk

A Testimony of the Monthly Meeting of Friends on Nantucket Concerning our Deceased Friend Deborah Macy as followeth ——

Deborah Macy Widow of Thomas Macy Deceased was a Virtuous Woman a Loving and affectionate Wife a tender Mother a kind Mistress and a Good Neighbour was touched with a feeling Sympathy towards those in Distress and often Extended her Charity where need was and by the remarks we have made in almost forty years knowledge of her we think she has Justly merited the Character of a pattern of Love and Good works and Lived up to the Blessed Truth in a good Degree Which She made profession of She was a Woman often attended with much Sharp pain at her Stomach so that She would be ready to think it would be too hard for her but never known to murmur or complain at any of the Lords Dealings with her and towards the latter part of her time as her Dissolution drew near that her outward man grew weak the Strength of her inward man increased so that She was able to Speak Comfortably to her Children and those about her and did leave them much Good advice Desireing her Offspring to dwell together in love and keep the fear of God always before their Eyes and then their Endeavours would be Blessed accounting it a great favour that She Retain'd her reason and said She was not afraid of Death Death was no Terror to her for She found nothing to Stand in her way and on the 23d of the ninth month 1760 She quietly gave up the Ghost and on the 24th her Corpse was attended to Friends Meeting house by a Great number of Friends and others where there was Several living Testimonies borne and from thence to Friends burying Ground and there Decently Interred at Sherborn on the Island of Nantucket

She Lived Seventy Years and near Six Months. Blessed are the Dead that die in the Lord whereof we have good Grounds to hope that this our Friend was one and that when her Soul took its Leave of the Earthly Tabernacle it ascended up into the heavenly Mansion of Bliss prepared for all those that die in the Lord

The Testimony of the Monthly Meeting of Friends on Nantucket Concerning our Deceased Friend Mary Jenkins as followeth —

Mary Jenkins Widow of Matthew Jenkins was born on the Island of Nantucket & was Convinced of the Deceased truth Some little Time after her Marriage to which we have reason to hope She gave up in a good degree of faithfulness She being a Zealous Woman & one that delighted to hear of Lions prosperity She was deligent in attending Meetings both on first & week days not permiting Small things to hinder her from that branch of her Christian Duty She was an affectionate Wife a tender Mother and good Neighbour being a true sympathizer with those under Tribulation having trod that path her self: often deeply bowed on account of her offspring and would Sometimes say to them as they entered into a Marriage Covenant that now they had Arived to the Same State of Life with her She Exhorted them to be careful not to pattern after any thing they had seen amiss in her also Exhorting them to Live in the fear of God and Love one with another and to be in Love with Silence and to Meditate on the Things of God She was Siezed Some Years before her Departure with much Infirmity of Body which She was wonderfully Supported to bear with much patience not being known to Murmur at the hand of God let his Chastisments be Ever so heavy, and as her Dissolution Drew near & her outward man Decayed and Grew weak, her inward man Grew Stronger. She chose Retirement having but few with her Besides those that tended on her, and as She was in time of health of an Examplary Life and Conversation so her Dying speeches were comfortable & Edifying often Expresing the Goodness of God to her & Said she Should Soon pass from Death unto Life. & at one time Being Raised up in her bed she spake the following pathetick Poem to her Children

when I'm a Sleep and Ded & Gone
what I have wrote then think upon
Endevour now to mend your ways
that you may Live unto Gods praise
Tis a Straight Gate & Narrow way
that Leads to Life my Soul doth Say

6 Some few Days Before her Departure being filled with Raptures
of Heavenly Joy while her cup was Overflowing, She Exhorted those
About her to be Quiet and Easy if it should please God to take her away
Suddenly for her Redemption was Sealed in heaven & on the 14 of 4th mo 1761
She Quietly Departed this Life Being about 74 years of Age and was
Borne to Friends Meeting House from whence after a Solemn Meeting
with Many Friends & Others She was Decently Interred in friends
Buring Ground in the Island of Nantucket on the 15 of ye same Month

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A Testimony from the Quarterly Meeting of Sandwich Concerning
our Worthy Friend Hannah Bowerman of Falmouth Daughter
of John King and Martha his Wife, her Life and Conversation
specially in her Last Days, was Worthy of Immitation, being
an Ornament to her Religious profession. She Seamed to be
much weaned from the World and her mind often Retired to Seek
the Lord in Secret, and when of ability of Body a Carefull Attender
of Meetings and an Incourager of Others to keep them up: we may say
of her that she was one that was not ashamed of the Cross of Christ.
but patiently and Stedily bore it to the Last period of Life. in her Last
Sickness, which was short, she was in much Distress of Body, Yet
favoured with her Understanding Very clear, her Daughter Asked her
whether she found her peace to be made, she Gave Little or no Answer
at first, but after some time she Called her to her, and said, she had
Asked her a Question and Now she would give her an Answer, and
said she knew not of any thing that Lay on her Mind Saving one
thing, which was that she Did not know but she had made Use of
Smoking Tobacco Sometimes when she Ought not, then Seeing her
Children and Friends about her, with a pleasent Countenance said
Let us sing praises to the Lord God and the Lamb once more
who is worthy to be Praised and Adored forever, and then in a few
hours quietly Departed this Life ye 7 Day of ye 4 Mo 1761
and was Decently Buried in friends Buring Ground in Falmouth
Aged About 71 Years

A testimony from the Monthly Meeting of Smithfield
Concerning our Late Deceased and well Esteamed Friend Moses Aldrich of
Mendon, Who was born about ye 10 Day of ye 4th mo 1690 and According
to the best account that we could get, he was Convinced and made
Profession of the truth amongst Friends about the twenty first
year of his Age, and about four or five years afterwards he came forth
in the work of the Ministry, and was well approved of where he was
Called in that Service

And in the year 1722 he Acquainted his Friends and Brethren
that it was on his mind to Visit Friends in Barbados, whereupon
the Monthly Meeting then Belonging to Providence Gave him
a Certificate Recommending him to Friends in that Country
which he Visited Labouring in the work of the Ministry as
Appears by his Certificate which they gave him when his work
was done Amongst them Declaring their Unity with his Doctrine
and his Life and Conversation being Correspondent with his Doctrine
and after his Return from Barbados he Visited Meetings about
home for Some years, And in the year 1730 he Gave his friends
and Brethren to understand that it was on his Mind to Visit
Friends to the Westward for which the Monthly Meeting gave him
a Certificate to the Recommending of him to Friends in the
Westward parts, and as it Appears by his Journal he traveled
on the Continent in America in the work and Service of the
Ministry through the Several Governments as far as South Carolina
as Appears by the Certificate he brought home with him from
Carolina they Declaring their Unity with his Doctrine and his
Life and Conversation Being Correspondent with his Doctrine

And in the year 1734 he went the Second Time to Barbados in Said
Service as Appears by Accounts in their Certificate Declaring their
Unity with him, and after his Return the Second time from
Barbados he Visited Meetings about home about four or five years
and then made it known to his friends and Brethren that it was
on his mind to Visit Friends in Old England, and the Monthly
Meeting then of Smithfield gave him a Certificate Recommending
him to Friends in Great Brittain where his Lot might fall.
and in the year 1739 he Crossed the Ocean to Europe and spent

the

The most part of two years in Great Britain and Ireland
Visiting Friends and Labouring in the work of the Ministry
to the Satisfaction of friends in them Remote parts, as Appears
by two Certificates one from England and one from Ireland which
he brought home with him Declaring their Unity they had with
his Doctrine and his Life and Conversation the time he was
Amongst them was Examplary and Coresponden with his Doctrine
he had in Remembrance those Dear ones that he Left Behind him
when he was far Seperated as to the outward from them, for which
he Wrote Divers Letters home to his Wife and Children & Friends
Giving them Good Counsel and Advice therein.

He was a man of a Chearfull Reasent Conversation Yet Modal
and Examplary Endowed with a Large Gift of Understanding
both as a man and a Minister, he traveled often abroad Visiting
Friends Meetings in New England also a Steady Attender of the
Meeting he belonged to when of Abillity of body, and about home
and often Communicating to us of his Spiritual and Divine Gifts
to the Comfort and Rejoycing of the strong, and the Lifting
up and strengthening the Bowed Down and Disconsolate one
by the Assistance of that pure and Divine Grace by which
he was Supported and Assisted by, he was heard at a Certain
Time to say as he had Ocation to speak of his Experance that
it was about forty Years Since he was Convinced and was so
Strong Established in the truth that he Never had Stagered
Nor Stumbled at it, and so Continued we Belive to the End, he
Continued able to travel about and seamed Lively as a man for
for one of his Age, Untill a year Before his Departure: then he
Seamed to Decay in the outward man: and was more Confined
at home in the Winter Season: Yet in the Summer he Recovered so
as to Travel a Broad to Medings as far as Rhode Island, and Divers
Other places, and about the Latter End of the Eighth Month 1761
he was taken Sick, and so Remained under Great pain of Body
at Times which he bore with much Patience and Several Times
Gave good Council and Advice to his Children, he Seamed to be
Much Resigned to the will of God, once one of his friends Comming to
See him Asked him whether he was willing to Leave the World,

His Answer was he thought he was as to his own part, Yet in Respect of Friends of this Meeting he should be willing to Live Longer. Being Sensable of their want of Assistance he Advised his Children that were about him to Live in Love one with Another. Giving them to Understand thereby they would Receive Strength, But on the other hand if their Love should Grow Cold one towards Another they would Loose their Strength and Become weak. And they Shewing them Selves Troubled with the present Approch of his Death: he said to them do not mourn for me but Mourn for Your Selves, it is well with me and as well to Depart Now as to Live Longer or words to the Same Import, he Retaining his Senses According to what could be Discovered unto the Last, And Departed this Life on the Ninth Day of the Ninth Month after about tenn Days Sickness in the Seventy first Year of his Age, and was Interred the Eleventh Day of Said Month at Friends Beuring place in Friends Meeting House Yard in Mendon Near his Dwelling House, Although his Departure Seames a great Loss to us Yet we have good Cause to think it is his Gain, Being gone from works to Rewards

Signed at a Monthly Meeting of friends held at Smithfield 1730 of 11mo 1762.

By Uriah Mowry
Thomas Smith
Daniel Cass
Thomas Lapham
Joseph Killey
Joseph Buffum
Joshua Lapham
Benjamin Buffum
Thomas Steere
John Smith
Daniel Southwick
Moses Farnum
Adam Harkness
Moses Farnum Junr.
Jabez Wing
Daniel Cooke
John Tenne
George Smith
Daniel Thomson

Thomas Lapham Junr.

10 A Testimony of the Monthly Meeting of Friends in Sherborn in the Island of Nantucket Concerning our late Deceased Worthy Friend Priscillai Colman

Priscillai Colman Widow of John Colman and Daughter of Nathaniel and Mary Starbuck on the Island of Nantucket. was well Inclined from her youth and was favoured with a Good Education, Altho in Another Form of Regligeon then what is Professed by Friends, being unacquainted with them Until in or about the year 1701 when it pleased the Lord to Concern his Servent, Our Worthy Friend John Richardson to Give Nantucket a Visit, who had a Meeting at her Fathers House, where there Seemd to be a general Convinement and truth Received in the Love of it, and some of us have heard her say, Since a Series of more then fifty years hath Intervened, that it was often fresh in her Remembrance, and that she had Great Cause to Bless and Praise the Name of the Lord who called him forth for their Assistance and she was Early & Clearly Convinced, and became Obedient to that Convinement, it pleased the Lord to fit and prepair her heart to hold the Heavenly treasure, and in time to Administer to Others, for she had a publick Testimony to bear some times, Amongst us, and tho it was not Attended with that Elegance which Mans Wisdom teaches, yet Sufficiant to Demonstrate the power and spirit from whence it came, and which often Reached the witness of God in Others, She was a Constant attender of meetings, both on first & fifth Days when able, and would Likewise often Advise others to do so, She Lived Almost Sixty Seven years with her well Beloved Husband, who mostly Lived an Inocent Inoffenceive Life and Departed this Life not quite two Month before his Beloved Consort in Good Unity with Friends in the 95 year of his Age. and it pleased the Lord to Seperate them. they having Lived so Long together in Much Love & Concord. she said it Came Nearer to her then She could have thought, but Desired to be Content with the will of God therein, as it had Likewise always seemed to be her Desire in Every Dispensation of Life She had to pass though it always Seemed to be the Desire and bent of her heat So to steer her Course that she might adore the Blessed truth she made profession of, while she keept a house her hart Seemed always Open to Receive Strangers, Being Naturally of a Chearfull Spirit pleasen & kind both

Both to high and Low and as She Drew towards her Last Period She was Suzed with Bodily Infirmities, so that she was Mostly Confined to her bed for two Years, but not in the time known to Murmer or repine at any of the Lords Dealings with her, being all the Time favoured with a good Understanding, and was Examplary in Patience, She would Sometimes say she Did not know why she Lived so Long, Yet was therein Content with the Lords will, always thinking all was well, that was done for her both by God and Man, Saing the Lords Time was the best time, it was Very Evident she had not Lost her first Love, for She was often Concerned that her Offspring might so Dwell togeather in Love, and in the fear of God that they might witness his Love Shead abroad in their Harts for it is that Love of God said she that is my Support and that fills my Hart with Praises to his Name and that Causes me at Times to Long to be gone that I may be with him, for Death is no Terror to me, for I see Nothing in my way, so that he that was her Morning Light Remained to be her Evening Song, for the Day before She Died, having Recounted the Mercies of the Lord in Supporting her under Every Exercise of body and mind her whole Life Long, and filled her heart with Love to him, and all man kind: She Concluded in prayer and Repeted Praises to the Almighty, and then took her final Farewell of her Children, and Quietly Departed this Life before the Next Morning being the 1st of 3 Mo 1762 in the Eighty Six Year of her Age and her Corps Being Accompanyed with a Large Number of Friends and Others, was Decently Interred after a Solemn Meeting for the Occasion, In friends Burying Ground in Sherborn on the Isld of Nantucket, Sherborn y 28 of 3 Mo 1762

Signed in Behalf of Said Monthly Meeting by

Jethro Folger
Richard Macy
Silvanus Hussey

A Testimony from the Monthly Meeting held at Smithfield in New England, ye 26th of ye 12th Mo. 1776, Concerning Daniel Southwick, late of Mendon, Deceas'd

Forasmuch as it looks likely to us that some Account of this our Valuable Friend may be beneficial to those of the future, as well as the present Generation, if committed to Record, as an incitement & encouragement to persevere in the path of Virtue — Therefore let it be Noted that he was born at Salem in the year 1705, Descended of the Family of Southwicks mentioned in Lives & Bishops Histories; his Father Died when he was young, so that he had not the benefit of a Fathers Instruction, an advantage that too many Youth are apt to slight to their own unutterable loss yet he had an Education amongst friends, and when he came to mans Estate, he became religious, forsook Youthful follies, & passed through exercises & discouragements (as some of us have heard him say) till he was almost ready to sink at which time a Language ran through him "that he who had begun a good Work was able to carry it on," which so strengthened him that from that time he took courage, embraced the Cross & persevered in that way that he saw to be his duty to walk in, & not long after, he was concerned to appear in the Ministry, in the Assemblies of the Lords People to the Satisfaction of his Brethren — He removed from Salem to settle amongst us, in the year 1742, since which time we have been mostly favoured with his Company, as he travelled not very far abroad: and

and we may say thus much of him, that it appears to us, that Pride, Covetousness & Anger had as little room in him, as in any man of our acquaintance; We may further remark that in his publick Testimony he was much concerned to shew the Nature & value of love, and the hurtful, and pernicious consequences of ill will, contention & ~~hatred~~, also to Assert, and maintain the Universality & sufficiency of the Light of Christ manifested in man for his restoration to, & preservation in a State of reconciliation with God, clearly proving by the testimony of the Scriptures, that this inward Light is of God, & hath been testified of & believed in by the faithful in former Generations, and that it was, & is the only infallible guide to true happiness; and that without which no man can attain to the true & saving knowledge of God — Very able he was to point out & illustrate how opposite war & bloodshed is to the Gospel Dispensation, which brings to beating Swords into Plowshares, & Spears into pruning Hooks, & learning Carnal War no more, and so affected was he with the lamentable State of the English Nation, at this time, that the consideration thereof was apprehended rather to increase his Disorder which was of a Dropsical kind — He was exemplary in the attendance, & sitting in Meetings, was peaceable & a peace-maker in the Neighbourhood where he dwelt, and as he lived so he Died saying in his last Sickness, that his love was as Strong towards Friends as ever, & desired they might keep Steady, and as his Example through his religious Progress, hath

hath been such as is worthy of imitation, We hope this his desire may have encreasing weight with each of us, to excite a watchful care to avoid every thing that may tend to unsettle & shake us from that steady conduct, which the truth leads into, & as it is attended to preserves in — His understanding remained sound till near the last, & in the course of his sickness he dropt many instructive & comfortable expressions, once taking leave of one who, tho' educated among Friends, & willing to be accounted such, & advanced considerably in Age; yet the Cross not being taken up as it ought to have been, this our Friend taking this opportunity, when he had him by the hand, said in brokenness of Spirit "It affects me to see elderly People, who have brought up Families, & been trampling upon the Testimony of Truth through life, or to the same import, with other affecting expressions, which did mightily take hold of the man, so that he could not contain himself for weeping; and it is our fervent desire that it may produce profitable & lasting considerations, not only in his mind to whom it was spoken, but to all who are in such a State, that may hear or read this Account — At another time, after lying silent for some time, in great pain, he turned over in his bed, and looking at a Friend present he said "O dear! I dont know as I could bear this had it not been that our Master bore it before me; but now I find I can bear this & more too patiently, or to the same effect ——

The evening before his Decease taking a Friend by the hand said "I think the pains of Death are upon me, I think I shall not see the light of another Day, the pain of Body that I endure is very great

great; but the peace of mind out balances all, for my mind is in perfect peace —

During his last Sickness (which lasted about three months) he underwent much bodily pain, which he said he had some Sense of before it came, and further said he believed it was not only on his own Account, but for others also intimating that they might prepare for such a Time of tryal — Exemplary he was in patience unto the end — He Expired on the 19th. of the 11th. Mo. 1776, about the third hour in the morning, in good Unity with his Brethren and is we believe) arrived where the wicked cease from troubling, & where the weary are at rest; on the 21st. in the afternoon his Body was Interred in a Burying place on his own Ground, and was attended by a large Concourse of Friends, & others; And as he is and will be much miss'd by us, as well as by others, we pray the great Lord of the Harvest to raise up, & qualify more faithful & Exemplary Servants, & send them forth into his Harvest —

Signed in & on behalf of said Meeting by —

Benjamin Arnold.
Moses Brown
David Buffum
Ezekiel Comstock
Daniel Aldrich
Samuel Aldrich
George Comstock
Thomas Steere
Thomas Owen
George Smith
Jabez Wing
Moses Farnum
Elisha Thornton
Thomas Lapham Junr.
James Comstock

At a Yearly Meeting in the Sixth Mo. 1777 the above Testimony was read and it appearing that this our Deceased Friend had divers times suffered in the Destraint & Loss of his outward Substance, for the cause & Testimony of Truth, which he bore with an Examplary Christian Spirit, and this Meeting approving of the aforesaid Testimony, direct the same to be Recorded with this Addition — Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony from the Monthly Meeting of South Kingstown &c in the County of Kings County in Rhode Island Government, concerning our Ancient Friend Peter Davis —

He was born in old England, at Dover, the 1st of the 3rd Mo. One thousand Six hundred & Eighty, by his own Account, and was brought over to Boston in America when Young who was educated after the manner of the Presbyterians & was a Professor of that Religion — He was convinced of the Truth as professed by Friends about the Thirty Sixth year of his Age by the Ministry of Benjamin Holme; From the best Accounts we can Collect, he has been a Minister amongst Friends well approved of ever since our acquaintance with him, and his life & conversation hath been agreeable to his Profession: He was careful to Educate his Children in plainness of speech and Habit and was zealous for the cause of Truth; He was a diligent attender of Meetings both for Worship & Discipline, he was not only serviceable at & about home; but travelled in the Ministry visiting great part of Friends Meetings throughout New-England, where his Testimony was well Received, to the edification and comfort of Many — It appearing that he had a concern upon his mind for some time to Visit Friends in Old England, he apprehending the time come for that Service set out from his home in Westerly the fourth day of the fifth Month 1745 & Travelled through Connecticut into the Province of New-York & visited the Meetings of Friends at & about Oblong & East & West Jerseys & Pennsylvania & Maryland & then took Shipping at Philadelphia for old England; but was taken by the Spaniards & carried to

to France, & from thence got passage to England, where he Visited Meetings at London & the North & West parts of that Kingdom pretty generally; where he was well received, and had good Service as appears by Certificate; and after his return home he continued stedfast in the Faith & diligently attended Meetings as long as his Bodily health & strength did permit; He by reason of his great Age was confined to his House about fifteen Months, before his Death; but retained his Reason & often had something to say in Meetings held at his House (on Account of his not being able to go out) and about fifteen days before his Death was seized with a Fit & continued to grow weaker until the Twenty ninth of the Second Month 1776 — When he departed this Life in the Ninety sixth Year of his Age, and was decently Interred in Friends Burying Ground, at their Meeting House in Westerly aforesaid, on the second day of the third Month following —

The foregoing Testimony was Read & approved on at our Monthly Meeting held at Richmond the 28th day of the 3rd Mo. 1780

Signed in & by Order of said Meeting by —

Stephen Hazzie Clerk for this day

A Testimony of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, concerning our Ancient esteemed Friend Peter Davis Deceas'd; hath been Read in this Meeting, & the same being approved is directed to be sent up to the Yearly Meeting, with the following Addition thereto from this Meeting, which is Satisfactorily evidenced by

by divers Friends present — After his return from old England where he went with the Approbation & unity of his Brethren, he not only remained stedfast in the Faith; but fervent in Spirit, often leaving his Family & Occupation, which was that of a Taylor, to Visit his Brethren, in the narrow parts of the Yearly Meeting, & the Families of the adjacent Meetings to their Edification & comfort — He not only attended the Meetings near home, but was also a steady & exemplary attender of Monthly, Quarterly & Yearly Meetings: and like the Ancient beloved Disciple of our blessed Lord (to whom he had many times been likened) he frequently exhorted his Brethen to love one another & to be faithful, taking occasion in his publick Testimony to assure them to whom he Ministred, that Honesty was the best Policy, which he was enabled often to open in such a striking manner, that he was known by his Friends, both in great Britain & America by that Description — And altho' his gift lay more in the Ministry than in the Discipline of the Church, he was sensible of the Want of that necessary Institution being so fully attended to as would be best, which he manifested in a lively Simile in his advanced age, Saying, That notwithstanding I have not been so much engaged in the Discipline of the Church, as might have been for the best, yet it is like Marrow to my Bones, in my old Age, to see the Young & rising generation engaged therein, for said he; We have been plowing & Sowing, plowing & Sowing, but neglecting to keep up the Hedge the wild Beasts have got in & devoured our Labour. Or Words to this effect Import — He often visited the afflicted, & the Sick we have Reason to believe

have

have been Anointed & refreshed by his Ministry; and when far advanced in old Age, he continued to appear in the Ministry, with that warmth & brightness, which is reflected by a near approach to the Sun of Righteousness; And when he had access by approaching his presence in Prayer, the Spirit of which he seemed frequently favoured with, an awful Solemnity & covering of the divine Canopy was witnessed, to the refreshment of those present — At a late visit of a Friend, on his last Sick Bed, he being in a tender frame of spirit, said, As I have lived in love so I expect to Die in Unity with Friends, and give my love to all my dear Friends that ask after me —

And as our beloved Friend thus lived, so he Died in the Unity of his Brethren & was in Deed an Elder worthy of double Honour —

Signed in & on behalf of the Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island held at East Greenwich the 13th & 14th of 4th Mo. 1780 —

By — George Comstock Clerk

At the yearly Meeting in the 6th Mo. following the above Testimony was Approved & directed To be Recorded.

Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony from the Monthly Meeting of South Kingstown &c. in the County of Kings County in Rhode Island Government concerning John Collins ——

He was Born in the Town then called Westerly in said Government the 21st. day of the 12th. Month in the Year 1716 old Stile, of believing Parents and when he was young (his Father fell into the unhappy State of being delirious tho' when Rational a Sober discreet man) he was left pretty much to his own will & went into the vanities of the World, & when about the twenty third or fourth year of his Age convinced of the blessed Truth & became zealous & circumspect in his life and conversation & for Truths sake took up the Cross & denied himself of his former pleasures & delights. It was not long after his convincement, before his mouth was opened in a publick Testimony amongst Friends wherein alth.o for divers years he had but few words in meeting, yet his appearance was both acceptable and useful to Friends & as he approved himself faithful & diligent in the gift bestowed upon him, the Lord was pleased to enlarge it, so that he became an able Minister of the Gospel & therein his Service among Friends was Edifying & helpful to such as had the opportunity of his said Labours & Services amongst them; he was not only helpful in that respect but the Lord having been graciously pleased to bestow upon him a good degree of understanding, he was through divine Grace Serviceable in the

Discipline of the Church; He was also very diligent in attending Meetings until infirmity of Body rendered him unable; He was not forward in appearing in Meetings after a publick manner, unless he had a necessity upon him so to do, & then his exercise tended to the edification and comfort of those who sat under his Ministry — Upon his observing the great loss & damage many in communion with us had suffered (as he apprehended) from their taking upon them Offices of Trust, in outward Government, he has been heard to say, that he thought all who take upon them our high & holy Profession, and strictly attend to the Dictates of Truth in their own hearts, would be preserved from taking such offices of trust; & that it would be better for the Society if it would raise and maintain a Testimony against their Members meddling therein; or words to this import —

And when the Distemper encreased his zeal & fervency was not, ~~abated~~ Lessened which was, ~~manifested~~ Demonstrated by his continued constancy in attending Meetings both for Worship & Discipline, when under very great Bodily weakness being in a Consumptive distemper, which increased upon him about the Space of two Years: he was much engaged and took much pains in endeavouring to have the Africans or Negroes &c freed from Slavery and

and often testified against that wicked practice.
He was exemplary in bringing up his Children in
plainness of habit and Speech. About a Week
before he Deceas'd, he called for his Children that
lived in the House with him, & said unto them
That he had no expectation of continuing long
with them & he had this advice to give to them
viz. That live together in Love & be kind one to
another & be diligent in attending Meetings,
& when met not to be looking out for words,
but to endeavour to be gathered inward & to wait
in Silence, to be taught by that infallible
Teacher, the light of Christ in their own hearts,
and he said that some of his Children had
Married out of Unity with Friends and
advised the rest not to do it if they never. Married.
His distemper encreasing & he continuing to grow weaker
& the Night after when a Neighbour & some of his Family
were sitting by him he being in great pain of Body
and thinking his end was near said, this is hard work
indeed & desired that he might have patience to bear it,
his Sickness encreasing Several Friends came to see
him, & to two of them he said, as I was looking on you
I thought of the kind treatment from your Families
at your Houses that I have Received, of them & when you
go Home, give my love to them. And he continued to
grow weaker and his Speech failing much he appeared
frequently to be in Prayer by lifting up his hands &

and by the moving of his Lips; & one time was heard to
Say be with me O God at this Time — At another
time one Friend that was Sitting by him said unto him, it
may be that thou may Recover there may be
some further service for thee, he answered I have
no Will about it, yet had rather be Dissolvd,
if it be the Lords will; if not I desire to be conformice there
unto & if there be any further Service for me, hope I shall
be faithful, but believe that my Service is over — And
at another time a Friend said to him; I think thou art
near going & after a silent pause he returned this An-
swer, not so near but that he should be glad it was near-
er if it was agreeable to Divine will — He continued to
fail & drawing towards his end, one of his Sons came to
his Bed side, he looking at him & said, almost gone; his
Son answered it looks so; & I think thou hast been greatly
favoured in the preservation of thy understanding;
He Answered, Yes. for he had not been light-headed
and notwithstanding the extremity of my pain believe
I shall be favoured with an easy passage when the
time comes, and he remained sensible to the last,
which to appearance was granted him, who died
the fifth day of the Week, about the eighth hour in
the morning the first day of the Tenth Month 1778 in
the Sixty third Year of his age & was Buried the

the 3rd. of the same in Friends Burying Ground at their Meeting House in Hopkinton, after a solemn Meeting held on the Occasion at said House

the 3rd Mo. 28th day A. D. 1780

The above & foregoing Testimony was Signed by Stephen Hoxsie, by Order & on behalf of said Monthly Meeting of South Kingstown.

Stephen Hoxsie Clerk this Time

The within Testimony of the Monthly Meeting of South Kingston, respecting our esteemed friend John Collins Deceasd has been Read in this Meeting, & the same is directed to be sent up to the Yearly Meeting, this Meeting approving thereof with this additional Testimony, that he, Notwithstanding his prospect that the Administration of Civil Government in the present State of the World did not belong to Friends yet held Civil Government to be necessary, & that there were an Order of Men whose Business it was to Administer the same — We have also to mention his zeal & care to further the service of Friends who

who were Travelling for the promotion of Truth amongst us, he often accompanying them therein, giving up his Time to the service of the Church in a manner worthy of imitation: And as he lived to the promotion of Righteousness on Earth, we doubt not of his receiving the reward prepared for those who love the Lord Jesus in Sincerity & Truth——

Signed in Behalf of our Quarterly Meeting held at East Greenwich for Rhode Island in New England, by Adjournment the 14th. of the 4th Mo. 1780——

By George Comstock Clerk——

At the Yearly Meeting in the sixth Mo. following, the above Testimony was approved & directed to be Recorded——

Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony from the Monthly Meeting of Smithfield concerning Moses Thurnum——

He was Born in Uxbridge the 25th of the then 8th Month 1730 his Parents names were Moses & Abigail Thurnum, who at the Time of his Birth were in Profession and Communion with the Presbyterians so called, but through divine favour were afterwards convinced of the Truth as professed by the People called Quakers, & were Zealously concerned to Educate their Children agreable thereto, which thro divine Blessing was gratefully remembered by this our Friend to his Lasting advantage; Nevertheless it appears he was remiss in attention to the reproofs of Instruction while young & thought lightly of Friends till about the tenth Year of his Age, when a Meeting was held at his Fathers house, he being out doors in a careless & disrespectful way towards Friends, perceiving others without draw up to the House, as tho' something was

was spoke within, he drew up likewise & found a Friend in Supplication particularly for his Fathers Family, which so reached his Understanding that he dare not afterwards speak lightly of Friends, notwithstanding which & the repeated Visitations he afterwards had, he made but little progress in Religion untill some time after he was Married, and had several Children, when he became more & more Obedient to the teaching of Truth, and became useful in Society, & making a good improvment with the Talent Received, about the 40th Year of his Age the Lord was pleased to Commit unto him a Measure of the Gospel to dispense; Upon the entering into which Service, he was deeply Baptized under an humbling sense, of the weight of the Work, & often appeared awfully affected when in Meetings under the influence thereof; He was a close reprover of Backsliders, yet to the sincere heavy laden Traveller, his Words dropt like Oil to their great comfort and encouragement; Short but comprehensive in public Testimony, & at times he was much favoured in Supplication — He was ready to indite in a sport and comprehensive way and had an excellent gift & was very extensively useful in the Discipline of the Church: and altho' he had a large share of Natural understanding capable of extensive Argumentation, yet he was seldom known to engage in doubtful disputations, but on the Contrary when matters in Meetings of Business, were carried on too much in the Wisdom of this World, He knowing a subjection of the creaturely Will in himself, was often observ'd to sit as with a Bridle upon his Tongue, until Truth opened the way & then simply speaking his feelings in the Authority of Truth, matters often ended to general Satisfaction. He was a steady attender of Meetings & a good example therein, in humble waiting for divine Assistance, which he often recommended to others in public Testimony, as being the alone way to renew their strength. He was a kind & loving Husband; a tender careful & affectionate Father, keeping his Family steady to Meetings

and

and careful to bring them up in plainness of Speech behaviour & Apparel & in the frequent reading the Scriptures & other good Books & he oft times called his Family together & sat with them in Silence & sometimes gave them Counsel as Truth opened the way; And which rendered him still more amiable in the view of his Friends, & is an evident mark of true Discipleship, he was ready to be advised & therein shewed his love for the Brethren, which some despise to their own unspeakable loss & the disunion & division of Society — He was useful & well beloved amongst his Neighbours, having a disposition of mind & qualifications which rendered his Company & conversation comfortable & instructive —

He was a very Useful Instrument in obtaining the freedom of the poor enslaved Africans, & became so deeply concerned in behalf of real Liberty, that for several Years before his Death, he declined the Use of such Goods as he knew to be the Product of the Labour of Slaves —

He was a very Steady attender of the Quarterly & Yearly Meetings to which he belonged & travelled Considerably within the same, Visiting Monthly Meetings in Company with Friends of Committees & otherwise, he Visited most of the Families in his own Monthly Meeting & some of them several times over, to the good satisfaction of friends having an excellent gift therein, in which, as well as his other Labours, he was fervently engaged for the Children & Youth of this Generation, usefully gaining their affection —

About the fore part of the Year 1779 he manifested a concern to Visit Friends of Pennsylvania, having had a prospect thereof for several Years, which he laid before the Elders of his own Monthly Meeting, who concurring therewith, as did the Monthly & Quarterly Meetings to which he belonged, & having a Certificate for the same

same and an agreeable Companion for the Visit, he set forward
& was at the early Meeting at Philadelphia & Visited divers adjacent Meetings
in Pennsylvania, also Visiting Meetings by the way,
& returned home well satisfied with his Visit, as also were
Friends where he Went, as appeared by the Certificate
he produced from them; — After making a short
Stay at home he acquainted us of his having drawings
in his mind to make another Visit to Friends of
Salem Quarterly Meeting, the which he had also a pre-
vious prospect of, and having a Certificate in company went with
our Esteemed Friend Abraham Griffith from Pennsylvania, which proved a laborious Journey, being Winter
& abundance of Snow; nevertheless he performed his
Visit to the Satisfaction of Friends & returned in the
latter part of Winter, through great Hardships, in the Snow
and Cold, which was thought to hurt his Constitution toge-
ther with the Hardships afterwards in attending Meetings
at home, going much on Foot through extream Cold & Roads
impassible for Horses by reason of Snow, so that once or twice
he almost gave out as thinking whether he must not Perish
by the way; Yet it did not appear but that he remained
comfortable till the latter part of the 3rd Mo. 1780, about
which Time, he was observed to fail, tho' himself was sensible
of it some time before, but did not at first mention it, even
to his Wife, in hopes he might mend without discovering
the same to her grief in a difficult circumstance, but the
Disorder encreasing (which appeared to be of the Apoplectic
kind) he made it known, which disorder so affected his
Speech that it grew difficult for him to converse, yet in the
fore part of his illness he was able to Converse so much, being
in a sweet composed frame of mind, as to convey a satisfactory
Account of divers things, relative to himself & others & by signs
& words till near his last — Soon after he appeared unwell
a Friend Visiting him & speaking of the disorder to him

men

Mentioned the numb Palsey, he said Apoplectic & said he though
he should not get well, tho' perhaps better, & Friends might
speak freely to him & of his disorder, and being asked of the
State of his mind, He said, he had had to view several things
over that had been in the Course of his life, wherein he had
miſsed it, which he had known all done away, so that no-
thing but Peace & quiet of mind remained, which he said
Friends might understand, which fully appeard by his Patient
resignation through the whole Course of his Illneſs, in the
fore part of which perceiving his Speech to fail, he had
his Family together & spoke much to them in a heart-tendering
manner, telling them to this purpose; That he had said & done
a great deal for them, sincerely for their good & thought they
had too much disregarded his Fatherly care towards them
& was favoured to speak to them in such a manner, that
it wrought much upon them & he told them he desired
they might remember the care & pains he had taken for
them & live in love one with another & be loving & obedient
to their Mother in Law, whom he believed had been made
his Companion ~~by~~ Through divine appointment — A few days
after, he & his Wife being pretty much alone, had much
conversation on divers Subjects, some of which respected the
dealing with some & admonishing others, who stood forward
in Society, at which dealing & admonition, there had
been uneasineſs with some, being asked whether he remain-
ed of the same mind respecting the propriety & justice
thereof, he answered yes, he was fully Satisfied therein. —
As he had Borne a Testimony against War & Blood-shed
by refusing for some time to pay the Taxes Aſsesſed for
the Support thereof, a Friend Visiting him asked whether
he remained of the same mind respecting that matter

matter He answered Yes, and on asking him if he believed said Testimony would arise into Dominion he emphatically answered Yes, O Yes —

A Friend Visiting him who had been considerably admonished respecting his public Testimony & paying but little regard thereto, he was concern'd to speak his mind to him in that respect, and told him he look-ed upon it a great thing to disregard the Advice of the greatest & most weighty part of Friends & desired he might take their Advice. —

His Wife being in Travail very Ill, he was much concern'd That those about her, might conduct soberly & be as still as possible, from a Sense, as appeared, that Women on such Occasions, are too apt to be unguarded in Conversation, which Useful Hint we hope may be attended to —

About two Days before his Decease, feeling himself draw nar a Conclusion, he took his Solemn & final Farewell of his Family; at which time his understanding appeared clear & he a little revived) taking them by the Hand, as well as others present, with the appearance of a mind truly Sensible of the Weight & nature of such a parting being unable of Speaking ~~any~~ more than just Yes & No ~~at~~ at this Time, So gradually failing till near the last, when falling into a Sleep, so remained till he Breath-ed his last without Sigh, Groan or Struggle on the 9th. day of the 5th Mo. 1780 & was decently Buried in Friends Burying Ground on the 11th following, in Uxbridge, On which Occasion there was a large Concourse of Friends & others; Thus concluded Time with a Valiant in

in the Lords Cause, who we doubt not is now at rest in a Mansion of Glory. —

Signed in & on behalf of the said Monthly Meeting held by Adjournment at Smithfield the 1st of the 9th Mo. 1780 —

Thomas Lapham Clerk

Read & approved of at our Quarterly Meeting held at Dartmouth the 12th & 13 of the 10th Mo. 1780

Signd — George Comstock Clerk

At a Yearly Meeting held at Smithfield upper Meeting House in the 6th Mo. 1781 on the 13th day the foregoing Testimony was Read & approved of —

Thomas Lapham Clerk

Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony concerning our Friend Adam Mott Deceas'd

Our well beloved Friend Adam Mott was Born in Dartmouth on the 12th day of the 4th Mo. in the Year 1692; Of Honest & pious Parents whose names were Jacob and Casandra Mott, who Educated him in the ways of Truth, which he departed not from when he was Old, being religiously inclined from his Youth up, and as he continued in a good measure obedient to the dictates of pure Wisdom, he was endued with a gift of the Ministry; And altho' he was not largely gifted therein, yet his exemplary life and conversation, grave & solid Deportment added much to the force & Validity of his Public Testimony, and being concerned for the promotion & spreading of Truth, he travelled in the public service of the Ministry, in Company with our beloved Friend Nicholas Davis, through many or most of the Meetings of Friends Eastward, as appears by the Minutes of his journey there, left in his own hand Writing, in which he had the Unity & concurrence of Friends &c

He also made a Visit in the Year 1755 with the same Companion Westward, through most of the Meetings of Friends in the Jerseys & Pennsylvania Governments, and was well accepted by Friends where he Travelled, as appears by divers Certificates from the Meetings of Friends in those parts — He was a diligent & steady attendant of our religious Meetings, careful to observe the Hour & appeared therein with a grave & Solemn Countenance as becoming such a dependant Creature as Man, approaching in Solemn Worship before his Maker — He loved the Company of

of his Friends, and enterlained them, as they frequently came to his House, with much freedom & open-heartedness.

Towards the latter part of his Time, being far advanced in Years, his natural powers & faculties gradually decreasing, he was confined to his House about four Months before his Death; In which time he appeared with much resignation, peace & Child-like Innocence of mind; He departed this life the 28th. of the 3rd. Mo. in the Year 1767 in the 75th Year of his Age, and was Buried in Friends Burying Ground at New-Town, was a Minister about 38 Years ——

Given forth & signed in & on behalf of our Monthly Meeting of Men & Women Friends held in Dartmouth by Adjournment the 28th of the 3rd Mo. 1781 —— by ——

Wm. Anthony Junr. } Clerk to the Mens Meeting

Susanna Smith } Clerk to the Womens Meeting

The foregoing Testimony having been approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting & laid before the yearly Meeting in 1782 is Directed to be Recorded.

Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony concerning our Friend Susanna Gifford

Our beloved Friend Susanna Gifford descended of Honest religious Parents, whose names were Zachariah and Abiah Jenkins & was born at Sandwich the 28th of the 5th Mo. 1695 She being regularly Educated by her Said Parents, while Young, and when she came to riper Age, she removed into this Town of Dartmouth, which was the place of her abode the most of the time of her life afterward: she was religiously inclin'd from her Young Years, and having entered into Marriage with Simeon Gifford; passed some Years in Solitude of mind, yet frequently attending our religious Meetings; And at length she so far adhered to the dictates of the Spirit of Truth, as to be made willing to leave all to follow the Lords requirings of her, and as she became truly humbled before him, he was graciously pleased to Communicate a gift of the Ministry to her, whereby she was enabled to Testify & point out to others from her own experience, the way that leads out of ~~Sin~~ the Bondage of Sin & Transgression, to the path of peace and rest & by being Obedient was many times favoured with an enlargement in her Gift, which was truly comfortable & edifying — Though she went not much abroad, for she was of a weakly Constitution & Lame.

She went home from Meeting unwell the 10th of the 1st Month 1769, with which Sickness She Died.

in

In the time of her Sickness she made many Edifying expressions, Saying, "It was her delight to go to Meeting to wait upon the Lord, to renew her Strength" And seemed to be fully sensible that her end drew near, saying, "She had taken her final Farewell of Friends & desired to be Remembered by them all." And further said, "I have fought the good Fight, I have kept the Faith, henceforth is laid up for me a Crown of Life." She was fully resign'd & freely willing to Die, & often longed for the time to come. She seemed to have a foresight of those Commotions which have since come upon the ~~Land~~ Inhabitants of this Land, frequently expressing herself nearly to the following import. "Oh! the noisy Tumultuous times that are coming upon You, or that you may live to see." And seemed to Rejoice as the time of her departure drew near, altho' as She said "It was a great separation for the soul to be separated from the Body;" But expressed her full satisfaction & entire resignation therein; frequently Counselling her Children and others then present, "To seek first the kindom of Heaven & all other things would be Added," With many more sensible expressions, she being sensible to the last & further said, "I have arrived to the Gates of Heaven & am near entering." She departed this Life the 14th of the 2nd Mo. 1769, and was Buried the 16th of the same, in Friends Burying Ground at Aponeganset in Dartmouth. She was a Minister about 36 Years

The foregoing Testimony having been approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting and laid before the yearly Meeting in 1782 is directed to be Recorded Compared by Moses Brown

Given forth & Sign'd in & on behalf of the Monthly Meeting of Men & Women Friends held in Dartmouth by Adjournment the 28th of the 3rd Mo. 1781. by Wm. Anthony Junr. Clerk of the Mens Meeting; Susanna Smith Clerk of the Womens Meeting.

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A Testimony concerning our Friend Paul Russel deceasd.

Our well esteemed and truly valuable Friend Paul Russell, was born at Dartmouth, on the thirtieth day of the tenth Month 1710: being the Son of James & Rebeccah Russell; and altho' he was educated among Friends, his Parents being Members of our Society, yet, in his youthful days, he was naturally prone to a libertine & dissolute way of Living, in which he too much indulged himself; but after he came to riper Age, he gradually gave way and adhered to the gentle leadings of pure Wisdom, and to the reproofs of Instruction, the only way to life, & by and through the power & virtue thereof, he more & more brake off and departed from his former indulgent ~~Course~~ way of life & Conduct, so that in Process of time, he became in a good degree, a Sober, religious & virtuous man, being in many respects examplary in life and conversation, living a Number of Years a Sedate and retired life, yet a frequent attendant of our religious Meetings, and was in those days often made use of in Our meetings of discipline, till about the 53rd Year of his age, when he being under a renewed engagement of mind; a great & weighty exercise came upon him even the forming hand ~~of~~ & arm of divine power & Goodness; - infinite Wisdom seeing meet to work by ways unknown to man in order to bring about his sacred purposes, and for the further refining

&

and purifying of man, the workmanship of his hands, for his own use & service, and that the creaturely part, and every thing in man, that stands in opposition to the divine will & nature, may be brought into true subjection thereto, and when we are thus reduced into this state of self abasement, then can we understand the language of Job formerly, when addressing himself to his maker in this manner, "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the Ear, but now mine & ye seeth thee, wherefore I abhor myself & repent in dust & Ashes: Job. 42. 5. 6. Thus our beloved Friend was reduced, almost to a state of despondency but in process of time, often passing through many & sore exercises of mind, he was again favored, with a renewed visitation of life, the refreshing streams whereof, gradually distilling upon his hungry & thirsty soul, was as healing balsam to his wounded & distressed mind, and in him we believe was verified this Evangelical Prophecy, & bruised reed shall he not break, & the smoaking flax shall he not quench 'till he send forth judgment unto victory, Matt. 12. 20.th" Whereby in time his Mouth was opened to testify in grateful terms, what the Lord had done for him, & under a living sense thereof, to call aloud to others to turn from the evil of their ways & to set about the great & of all things most necessary work, of reformation & regeneration, while the day of their visitation was continued to them.

He was endued with a clear & distinct Gift of the

the Ministry, which he improved to the benefit of others, as well as himself, being truly edifying & lively in the exercise thereof; may his many pious declarations, cautions & warnings; as well as his examplary life & conversation, be yet remembred in Time to come, and may we who yet retain a Sense & savour thereof be still animated to travel on in the way everlasting, that leads to life and peace ——

He being somewhat in the decline of Life, when his mouth was first opened in Testimony, and being of a weakly constitution he did not travel much abroad in the Ministry; yet he diligently attended our Religious Meetings both for Worship & Discipline, appearing therein with a grave & solid Deportment, & an unaffected gravity was manifest in his Countenance, he was very useful in our Meetings of Business, being discreet in Judgment & of a discerning mind, in difficult or dowbtful Cases, brought before the Meeting

He was confined at home in his last illness, about two Months, in which time, he gave much good advice, counsel & admonition, to his Children & Friends that came to visit him, being much engaged for the promotion & prosperity of Truth, & that Friends may live in Love & Unity, one with another, and to divers individuals, as he was taking his final leave of them, he spake to them in a remarkable manner, telling them, of their then present States & conditions, being remarkably favoured with clear openings & deep Counsel, which is to be hoped will be as bread blessed by his Master, cast at his command upon the Waters, the unstable minds of the People that may yet be found, tho' perhaps not till after many days. ——

He laboured under great exercise & pains of Body, during his last Sickness, which he bore with great patience & was wonderfully drawn forth into many lively Testimonies, & heart-tendering Supplications, to the admiration of those that went to visit him.

He

He was often heard to express himself in this manner, "my dearest Lord I long to be with thee", And he signified that there was a trying & sifting time coming, wherein the Lord would bring in a People, a tried People, that would serve him in faithfulness & Obedience. ——

He was earnestly engaged to the very last, to call to some that came in to see him, to turn from the evil of their ways, while the visitation of God was continued to them: ——

He was heard to say just before he departed, that the Lord is about to call me off the Stage of Action, and hath brought me forth to the Banks of deliverance ——

He departed this life, in the 63rd Year of his Age, in much peace & tranquility of mind, on the first day of the Sixth Mo. 1773: And was Buried in Friends Burying Ground at the old Meeting House in Apponeganset; he was a Minister about 8 or 9 Years. ——

Given forth & signed in & on behalf of the Monthly Meetings of men & Women Friends, held in Dartmouth, by Adjournment the 28th of the 3rd Mo. 1781, By ——

The foregoing Testimony having been approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting, was laid before the Yearly Meeting in 1782 & directed to be Recorded.

Wm. Anthony Junr. } Clerk of the Mens Meeting

Susanna Smith } Clerk to the Womens Meeting

The above Testimony, after being amended by the direction of the Quarterly Meeting was read in the Meeting & approved as it now Stands & was signed in & on behalf of Our Monthly Meeting of Men & Women Friends held in Dartmouth by Adjournment the 5th of the 9th Mo. 1781. by William Anthony Junr. Clerk

Susanna Smith Clerk ——

Examined by Moses Brown

A Testimony concerning Elizabeth Gidley Deceasd.

Our dear and well esteemed Friend Elizabeth Gidley, was born in Dartmouth, on the first day of the first Month 1702; of honest Parents, tho' not of high esteem in the World, nor in Society with Friends: divine Wisdom seeing meet to call her forth as from the highways and hedges with a power of Compulsive Love, into the Work and Service of the Ministry, about the Year 1740; and although She offered up her natural life, as she said, if it might be accepted, rather than be thus exposed in the view of the World" Yet, she saith "her chosen beloved dealt tenderly with her, and made her sensible, that pure Obedience & Submission to his will, whether in life or death was her duty; and that the fear of man was a Snare." thus she gave up to that Divine hand, that had called her forth, out of Egyptian darkness, into his marvellous light, and by a gradual advancement in that service, became a skilful & lively Minister of the Word among us, to the edification & comfort of many: And although she was not furnished with natural abilities nor literature, like unto many, yet these defects were abundantly supplied with divine Wisdom, even to the Wonder of those that knew her —

The place of her abode was in this Town of Dartmouth, the whole Course of her Time, with whom we had true Unity, both as a Minister and Member, in both which Capacities she was truly serviceable among us, being a Woman of a Pious and exemplary life, her conversation corresponding with her public Testimony, and as she was remarkable for her innocency humility & self denial, so she seemed far from affectation of Speech,

behaviour

behaviour & Apparrel; living up to the doctrine she Preached to others, and was able from her own experience, to Speak a Word in Season, to direct others, in the way that leads out of Sin and evil, into the glorious liberty & freedom of the Truth. ——

She was diligent in attending our Religious meetings, when opportunity would allow, being under extreme difficulty * on Account of her Husband, as She has hinted in the following Manuscript: As She through divine Assistance surmounted some of the greatest trials with uncommon valour & fortitude, so she often directed others to the same hand of help, which was able to Support them in the greatest Straits, frequently encouraging Friends to faithfulness, in every branch of their Testimony. —

It was she engaged to call particularly to the Youth, in an awful & fervent manner; to forsake their wickedness & vanity, consider their latter end in the days of their Youth, and prepare for that Tremendous Period of Time that is hastening upon all Flesh. —

She was taken ill about four Months before her Death with a disorder in her Throat, which gradually encreasing upon her, soon confined her at home, in which time, she Wrote the following hints of her own experience, finishing it a little before her Death; her illness often being very painful and bodily affliction great, she bore it with exemplary patience & resignation, as death to her seemed to be no terror, her understanding & memory were preserved to the last. ——

She departed this life the 29th of the eleventh Month 1765, in the 64th Year of her age, and was buried in Friends burying Ground at Aponagansett, was a Minister about 25 Years, and as her removal is our great loss, so we believe it is her greater gain, having no doubt through many Tribulations entered

* Manuscript referd to, not Recorded —

entered into that glorious Kingdom of Joy & peace where,
"The wicked cease from troubling, and where the weary
be at rest." Given forth and Signed in & on behalf
of our Monthly Meeting held in Dartmouth, on
the 19th day of the first Month 1767, By

Joseph Tucker
Abraham Tucker
Humphry Smith
Isaac Smith
Jonathan Russey
Paul Russell
Caleb Russell
Increase Allen
Nicholas Howland
William Sandford
Philip Trafford
Benjamin Smith
William Barker
Peleg Smith

Hannah Tucker
Susanna Gifford
Apphia Mott
Keziah Russey
Ruth Mosher
Ruth Davis
Alice Anthony
Pernal Earl
Elizabeth Smith
Deborah Hicks
Phebe Slocum
Elizabeth Howland
Bethia Wady
Susanna Allen
Amy Barker
Elizabeth Russell,

The foregoing Testimony having been
approved by Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting
and sent up to the yearly Meeting in 1768
was Directed to be Recorded.

Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony of the Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Newport for Rhode Island the 29th of the 5th mo. 1787. Concerning our Esteemed friend Joseph Mitchell Deceased.

He was born on the Island of Nantucket in the year 1741 of Parents professing the truth with us, by whom he was Educated in the same profession, but as we are not fully acquainted with many of the particulars of his Life, until his removal to this Island, we shall give this account principally from what hath occured since that time which was in the year 1781, when he became a Member of this Meeting by Certificate from the Monthly Meeting of Greenwich, being recommended as an approved Elder, and having for some time appeared in publick Testimony, to the satisfaction of Friends. And steadily attending to his Gift, he experienced a growth therein, and became a faithful and approved Minister; being a good example in plainness and simplicity in Godliness and honesty, of whose self denying and abstemious Life, we might mention many things that appeard in him, as the foot steps of one of the flock & the companions of the great pattern, however to the view of some, who were not enough Circumcised in heart and ears, they might carry with them the appearance of Austerity, he was a man Invested with a deep Concern for the promotion of Truth, being favoured with quick discerning and of remarkable stability, grave in his deportment amongst men, and in Religious Meetings, his countenance bespoke solidity & reverence, in the attendance of which he was carefull and diligent, and in his appearance in publick Testimony & the Truth, was attentive to the openings and Closeing of it both in Meetings for Worship and Discipline, which rendered his services savory and Edifying, he believd it required of him at a particular time to declare publicly in

the street

in the Street of Newport against the Superfluities & Extravagances of the People, which in Obedience to what he apprehended to be his Duty he gave up unto, — he was also Concerned to write to the Legislative Authority, Declarative of what had Impressed his mind, respecting the the peculiar care of the most high, over those who placed their dependance on him, and of his prospect of a threatned Scourge to those who Continued to reject his Law, which having Communicate to the Meeting for Sufferings and having their approbation presented it with his own hands. ——— he was also deeply Concerned on account of that iniquitous practice of making Slaves of the People of Africa, and of the injustice and Cruelty exercised in many places, upon those reduced to that Condition, from a sense of which he became particularly careful that not any part of his Conduct might countenance that mischievous error of Oppression; he was at several times Concerned in the weighty Service of visiting the families of Friends, in divers Monthly Meetings in Our Quarterly and his labours in this Service were also extended to Friends out of the verge of it, which we believe were to the help and Edification of those visited. —

In the Year 1784 with the Concurrence of Friends he attended the yearly Meeting on Long Island, and by an Endorsement on his Certificate it appears that his Company and Services there were acceptable. —

And having a Concern on his mind to proceed on a Religious visit to Friends in Pensylvania, the Jerseys, and parts adjacent, as Truth might open the way, And having an Certificate for that purpose, laid the same with his Concern before the Quarterly Meeting, who also having Unity with him therein Signified the same by an Indorsement on his said Certificate, he went from hence in the 7th Mo last in Order to proceed therein and after visiting the Meetings on Long Island New-York, and some parts of the Jerseys, and several Meetings in Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania, to the Satisfaction of Friends as appears by their Certificates, it pleased the Lord to put a period to his labours, for about the time he went into Pennsylvania, which was in the latter part of the 8th Month, he was taken of a fever, yet Continued in the service of his Religious visit until the 4th of the 9th month, when his Disorder had so prevailed as to render him unable to proceed any longer in that Service, and Increasing upon him, proved the means of his Dissolution, he died at the house of our friend Thomas Smith in Buckingham in the County of Bucks, the 27th of the 9th month and was Interred the 29th of the same month in Friends burying ground at Buckingham, as appears by a Testimony of Friends at their Quarterly Meeting held at Middletown in the County of Bucks in Pennsylvania the 30th of the 11th month 1786, directed to this Meeting,— by which it also appears that in the first part of his illness after he was Confined he laboured under deep Exercise, accompanied with increaseing bodily infirmity, but was favoured to endure this trying Dispensation, with patience and resignation, which was what he fervently desired, as appeared by his frequent expressions, and altho in some stages of the disease, it so operated as much to affect his Intellectual faculties, yet he was preserved in an Innocent State of mind, saying to a friend at a time of Intermission of the fever, that he felt the good presence of his Master which to him was Comfortable.

When the Time of his Dissolution came he Departed this Life as one fallen to sleep, Thus is the work of Righteousness peace, and the effect of Righteousness quietness and Assurance forever.

Signed in and on behalf of the Meeting aforesaid by } John Williams Clerk
Alice Kirby Clerk

The above Testimony respecting our Esteemed Friend Joseph Kitchel Dec.d having for some time lain

before this

before this Meeting in hopes of the way opening for some account to be collected of the progress of divine grace upon him from his first yielding to its holy visitation, untill the account in the Testimony of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting commenced; but as no account has yet been found from which such a Testimony could be drawn, and not being easy any longer to detain this from the yearly Meeting. It is concluded that the same be sent forward with our approbation, under a fresh sense of his zeal, care, circumspection, and usefulness in this Meeting, the Image and superscription which truth had impressed on his countenance, as well as the lively exercise under which he was frequently favoured in our Meetings of worship and Discipline, to the solid comfort, and satisfaction of the living body, we hope will long remain in our remembrance, for our encouragement and perseverance in the line of divine appointment, for the honor of that precious Truth with which he was so eminently adorned.

Signed in and on behalf of our Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at East Greenwich the 9th & 10th days of the 4th Mo. 1709.

by } Sylvester Wickes Clerk

The foregoing being Approved by the yearly Meeting was directed to be Recorded as the Minute.

Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony from the Monthly Meeting of Providence concerning Job Scott

Our beloved friend Job Scott was born in Providence the 18th of the 10 mo 1751, new stile, in that part of it now North Providence; his Parents were John and Lydia Scott who gave him such opperlunities, as through his turn for literary improvement, he acquired both a competent share in common School learning and made some progress in some other branches of literature.

In his young years, it appears, that by disregarding the reproofs of instruction manifested in his own mind, he was drawn into vanity, dissipation and folly; repeated and great were his conflicts, between his depraved profiensities and the convictions of Truth, but the latter humbling & melting his heart into contrition, he was graciously favoured to see the evil of his ways, and the distruction which awaited him if he did not reject the tempter, forsake his wicked companions and turn to the Lord, in obedience to his holy Law written in his heart; till at length he so learned Obedience by the things which he suffered, that he gave up to the Opperations of the Spirit of Christ upon him, in the faith of its divine, restraining, preserving & sanctifying power and therein experienced the consolation of his Heavenly Father love. Being thus humbled under the various turnings of the Lords hand upon him, and clearly convinced of the power & efficacy of the distinguishing principle of our holy profession viz: the light of Christ within

within man, as Gods gift for his salvation; — He requested the care and became a Member of the monthly meeting of Smithfield, then extending to providence; and being of strong and ready abilities, and his mind improved and enlarged by the sanctifying power of truth, he was enabled and zealously and very usefully disposed for the promotion of the cause of righteousness in which he was engaged ——

He having measurably learned in the School of Christ, the mystery of the fall and restoration of man; to understand the scriptures & pertinently to apply them; was brought under the preparing hand of the Lord for the work of the Ministry, under which dispensation, his soul was deeply baptised and brought under great Sympathy with seeking souls, who were travailing in birth that christ might be formed in them, to whom he was at times and seasons enabled powerfully to administer encouragement and consolation. This for several years, as well as by Letters and Epistles for which he was eminently gifted with instructive and edifying Talents, he laboured for the promotion of the cause of truth, now become precious in his sight; — And about the 23d year of his age, he appeared in the Ministry at a public Meeting in Providence, expressive of the desire of his soul, that "Zion might arise and shake herself from the dust of the Earth, and put on her beautiful garments" The gravity in which he appeared, the sympathy, which was felt, and the solemnity of that season, are refreshingly remembered by some to this day — At this time he taught a School in providence, in which employ he continued for several years, and afterwards in Smithfield, much to the satisfaction of his Employers, and the children & youth under his care, whose confidence and affections, he very generally gained and pre-

preserved, to some of whome his memory is yet precious.
In his attendance of all our religious Meetings, — In the various duties of private life, as well as in the relations of Son, Husband, Parent, & neighbour he was truly exemplary; — His appearance in the Ministry was not very frequent when at home, and he was frequently led into an example of silence: when abroad; exemplarily circumspect not to minister without fresh anointing; and careful in attending closely to the turnings of the Key of David, well knowing when that shuts none can open, and therefore when he perceived his subject to close and the life withdraw, however clear his opening and free the spring of life had been at his beginning, he would suddenly sit down, however in the Cross; for he had a testimony to bear against all superficial and lifeless Ministry, and very exemplary avoided it — His first visit abroad was to the northerly parts of the Yearly Meeting of Newyork, which proved a season of close probation & conflict of mind, yet endeavouring to attend to the pointings of duty from place to place he was as appears by his Certificates, favoured to return with the approbation of those he visited, and by a prospect which it appears he had as he was returning home, not wholly unlike the Apostle Paul 2 Cor. 12. he was strengthened to perseverance in a dedication of heart to the Lord, for in this luminous & extatic prospect it appeared to him that all his corruptions and spots were made clean before the Lamb, and he made to partake of the consolations and joys of the heavenly Host; yet like the Apostle paul, he had soon to experience a thorn in the flesh, lest he should be exalted above measure, and even the mesenger of Satan was permited to buffet him, but — he besaught the Lord for his preservation and received

received the consoling answer of my grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness; — Thus buffetted, tried & tempted, he had to tread in the steps of the great Apostle and his dear Lord and Master, and thereby became more perfected through sufferings — He afterwards visited Newyork, New-Jersey & Pensylvania twice, and once the Southern States as far as Georgia, returning Certificates of the approbation of those he visited among whome we have good reason to believe he has left many seals of his gospil Ministry, and near and dear Unity and fellowship with him as a brother beloved, as well as in these and other parts of our own yearly Meeting ——

He also visited some part of the State of Connecticut, and had Meetings among those not of our Society — Soon after which a prospect that for some years before had opened to his view, of visiting great Britain and Ireland had so ripened on his mind, as to induce him to open the same to his friends for their concurrence and Certificate; In the 9th mo 1792 he received one from this monthly Meeting — in the 10 mo from our quarterly meeting for Rhode-Island, on the 26 of the 11 mo he took a solemn leave of his family and friends at home, sailed from Boston the 5th of 12 mo for Dunkirk in France; — On the passage the ship sprung a leak & had a severe gale of wind, but it appears, this our friend was preserved "resigned & staid through all" while the Mariners on board were tossed with amazement and Terror, corresponding with a prospect which he received & recorded in his journal left at home, about 12 months before he sailed, on a view of which a striking evidence is thereby raised that Prophecy or communication to the mind of future events has not ceased

ceased; but that the Lord still continues graciously to open his visions of light to his divided servants by way of pointing to duty, forewarning of events, and guideing the mind through them in confirmation of divine superintendance and their faith in his gracious appearance.

He arrived at Dunkirk the 5th of the 1st Mo and after tarrying there about six days, much to his own and friends satisfaction, he proceeded to England taking some Meetings in Kent, went to London, attended the different Meetings in that City; then into Wales and attended the several monthly & quarterly Meetings, and the yearly Meeting at Carmathan; thence to Bristol and returning to London attended the Yearly Meeting there, who in their Epistle to ours speak of him in the very satisfactory manner.— He then went to Liverpool, taking Meetings on his way, and so passed over to Ireland, and visited all the Meetings of Friends and some other Societies there; attended the National half years Meeting in Dublin; was taking a few Meetings a second time when he was taken ill of the Small Pox at the house of our friend Elizabeth Shackleton in Ballitore, from whence he directed a Letter on the 14th of the 11 Mo to his relations and friends, out of which and an account taken by the friends who attended him we extract the following. "He says, I am now 28 Irish Miles from Dublin, entered 5 days into the small Pox; I feel easiest to address you, principally that you may know that my mind enjoys that which removes beyond all sorrow: — Of his children he says "I wish them to get a little more learning than some of them at present are in the way of; and although I do not wish much of the worlds polish, yet it is at this awful moment my desire that they may not be brought up with much rusticity, for this I believe has not very often contributed either to Civil or Religious use

wofulneſs. — My desire for my Children's substantial growth in the truth, and strict adherence to all its discoveries to the close of their days, is by far my principal wish for them; Out of the enjoyment of a good degree of this precious inheritance, I know of nothing in this world worth liveing for; — Ye that know it suffer nothing I most cordially beseech you ever to divert your minds from an increasing & fervent pursuit after the fullneſs of it, even unto the measure and stature of the fullneſs of Christ: — At another time he said "My spirits are under little or no depreſsion; perhaps I never saw a time before, when all things not Criminal were so near alike to me in point of any disturbance to the mind. when I verge a little towards sleep, I am all a float from the state of my Nerves and forced immediately from beginning repose; but through all the soul seems deeply anchored in God: — adding My heart seems melted within me in retrospective view; all the corner conflicts, however grievous in their time, are lighter now than vanity, except as they are clearly seen to have contributed largely to the sanctification of the soul, as they are remembered with awfulneſs and gratitude before him who has not been wanting to preserve through them all, and as they seem likely to introduce, either very shortly or before a long time, to an' exceeding & eternal weight of glory. — At another time he said, "It is the Lord that enables to coincide with his will, and say amen to all the trials & conflicts he permits to attend us: — My mind is centered in that which brings into perfect acquieſcence. — there is nothing in this world worth being enjoyed, out of the divine will. — He gave directions that if he should go hence, every thing about his Interment should be plain and simple; expreſsed his entire resigna

resignation to divine disposal; and that he found nothing to stand between him and the fountain of everlasting love ——— At another time said I have no fear, for perfect Love casteth out fear and he that feareth is not perfected in love; ——— His Stomach refusing all nourishment, and a hiccough came on he said, "do not force nature let me pass quietly away to the eternal inheritance" — Soon after said "I am waiting patiently to see the salvation of God, do you wait patiently with me; I have no desire, nor the shadow of a desire to be restored; — I hope the Doctors will soon find that they have done their part: — To one he said "Thy being here has been an inexpressible satisfaction to me; — afterwards said "I have known something of that Law of love whereby all boasting is entirely excluded but I may say through that which has supported me under all the trials and conflicts which have attended my passage through life; to you my beloved Friends as to dear children; Follow me, as I have endeavoured to follow Christ Jesus, the Lord of life & glory, and the rock of my eternal salvation: ——— We omit many other weighty and instructive expressions of our beloved Friend, which he uttered during his illness and till near his close, lest this Testimony should [be thought to] extend beyond its proper limits, [and] we may add, as he lived, so he died, in the faith of the universality & sufficiency of divine grace for mans salvation, tho' all men do not so embrace it, as to be saved, yet as he expressed near his last "The way is open for all — the way is open for all" and soon] he quietly departed this life the 22nd. of the 11mo. 1793. at the house of our aforesaid friend Elizabeth Shackleton in Ballitore in Ireland, and we doubt not finished his cours with joy, and is

and is entered into the place of his rest "Where the righteous shine forth as the sun, in the kingdom of their Father." — Signed in and on behalf of said Monthly Meeting by ——

John Holden } Clk
Lydia Arnold } Clerk

Approved by the Quarterly Meeting and directed to be Recorded.

Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony from our Monthly Meeting of Friends at Sandwich, Concerning our Beloved Friend, Anne Allen, late wife of Cornelius Allen, Deceas'd.

As the memory of the just is Blessed, so the remembrence of this worthy Patron is precious to many of us, —— Therefore we fel our minds engaged to unite in a short Testimony concerning her, with desires that many, from her pious & excelent example may be stirred up according to their measure, to follow her as She followed Christ. —

She was born in the 4th mo. 1700, and was Educated in the way of the Presbyterians, in which way she continued, till she arived to the age of about 20 years, and then it pleased the Lord to bring her under the visitations of divine love, and his preparing hand, to the begiling an engagement of mind to seek him whilst he was to be found. ——

So being thus favoured to witness the Heavenly Visitent, in the morning of her day & submiting there to, to be

to be brought into that passive nothingness wherein the vessels in the Lords House are formed & fitted for usefulness.— In this state as her heart was rightly dedicated to serve the Lord, she was made willing to become a fool, & despise the shame, for as she sought aright, she was favourd / we believe / to witness the Holy Language verifyed, "Seek & ye shall find, knock & it shall be opnd unto you"— After this she become a Religious professor with us as a People; and since has ever been a promoter, & an incourager of the cause of Truth, not withstanding the many tryals & troveing Baptisms she had to pass through, in this time of exercise through which the Lord was near, and enabled her to bare a faithful Testimony to the honour of his great Name, and to the establishing of her in the Truth.—

She was Innocently Chearful, her Conversation being sweetned with gravity, —— She had at times a few words to offer in our meetings, by way of testimony, which was truly acceptable to the humble minded. —— She was an affectionate Wife; a tender loving Mother, and a great Lover of her Friends, as also she was dearly beloved by the upright in heart. —— She was a diligent attender of our meetings as long as she had ability of body afforded, but the last two years of her life she was mostly confind at home, her Earthly Tabernacle being in a gradual decline, during which time she was preserved in an almost unexampled state of Patience & resignation, even to the very last, and tho' she had advanced to a great age, yet she was green & lively in the Truth. —— She often expressed her work was done,

done, Only this house of clay to be desolved & then she should be at rest with her Redeemer, where she had long wished to be, but would often say the Lords time would be the best time, which she was endeavouring patiently to wate for. — She dropid many sweet & heavenly expressions to friends that come to see her in her Illness, which was worthy of lasting remembrance. —

On the 13th of 9th Mo 1795 she quietly departed this life without sigh or groan, and is, we doubt not, gatherid into the folds of rest, where the wicked cease from troubling & the weary are at rest,
being in the 96 year of her age. —

given forth at our monthly meeting held at Falmouth for Sandwich the 4th of 3 Month 1796, and signid in, and on behalf thereof, —

Stephen Wing Clerk
By Hepzibah Wing pro Clerk

— Provided by the Quarterly Meeting of Sandwich and by the Yearly Meeting, and directed to be Recorded

Compared by Moses Brown

At a Monthly meeting of Friends held at Somerset for Swanzey 2 of the 1st Mo.th 1797 ~

It appearing that the substance of the following Testimony was drawn up soon after the Death of the deceased which of late being revived, brought forward, and deliberately considered in this meeting, and many minds being accompanied with a lively remembrance of the Pious and Virtuous life of this our beloved Friend, is an Inducement at this day to Preserve a memorial thereof. ~ —

The Testimony of the Monthly Meeting of Friends at Swanzey concerning our Esteemed Friend Benjamin Buffinton, Deceased.

He was born at Lynn on the 9th of the 4th Mo.th 1701. ~ of Parents in Profession with us, by whome he was Religiously Educated (His Father removing his Family within the Verge of our Monthly meeting when he was Young) He became a Member thereof, where he lived the remainder of his Life. ~

He was a Sober and religious Youth, and of a Sweet natural disposition, very discreet and wise in his behaviour, even from a Child and as he grew in years, he grew in grace, and in the fear of the Lord, whereby he gave Just hopes of being a Serviceable member in Society, accompanied with a modest willingness to improve in the best manner, for the good of himself & others, being often Imployed in difficult cases, which he managed with success which caused him to be greatly beloved by Friends and others. He was called to the work

work of the Ministry about the thirtieth Year of his Age, his first appearance was small but well accep=ted and for many Years, did not stand long at a time but being well attended with life and power, he was a deep traveller in Spirit, carefull to Minister in the ability which the Lord only gives, the seed taking root downward, he was in due time rightly Qualified to bring forth fruit Upward, greatly to the comfort, and consolation of the heritage of God, and being largely gift=ed in the openings of truths Doctrine, administered there=of to others, in the plain and simple demonstration of the Gospel power to general satisfaction, In which service, he travelled twice westward, as far as North Carolina, visited allmost all the meetings in them provinces where he had good service, amongst Friends and others, besides many small Journeys, within the Verge of our Yearly meeting, which were all to good satisfaction, leaveing many Seals behind him, of his Labours, —

His life being adorned with a becoming gravity, his words few and savory, yet free in converſation being well guarded In short he was a bright and shineing light, very serviceable in the Discipline of the Church, being a man of peace, and herfueing it with his whole heart, having a good underſtanding, sound in Judgement, with a Penetrateing thought, which enabled him to see the subtle workings, of crooked and perverse spirits, that were labouring to creep into the Church, foreseeing the havock they would make, bore a Faithful testimony against such, thus like a Valiant in Israel he did stand for the Lords cause. —

May his Pious life and Virtuous example, stir up many

many others, to come up in his footsteps to the honest discharge of duty.

His removal from time, was Sudden, being hurt at the raising of a building, after which he lived not an hour, but Appeared to be Sensible to the last, and departed in a resigned frame of mind - on the 9th of the 4th Mo: 1760 Aged 59 Years & a Minister about 29 — and on the 11th of S.d Month his Corps being Accompanied with a large body of Friends and others to our Meeting house in Swanzy, and after a Solemn meeting was decently interred in friends burying ground

Signed in and on behalf of Said Meeting —

By Daniel Brayton Clerk —
Abigail Lawton Clerk

Approved by the Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island and by the Yearly Meeting for New England in 1797. and directed to be Recorded

Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony from Swanzey Monthly meeting in the County of Bristol, Concerning our friend Patience Brayton. Deceased.

This our Esteemed friend Patience Brayton was born at North Kingstown, within the Verge of South Kingston Monthly meeting, the 18th day of the 11th Mo: in the Year 1733 of Parents professing Truth; David, and Mary Greene, and as she early found in herself a propensity to folly, dissipation, and vanity, So she witnessed the reprover following her, by powerful convictions, tho' for a time She withstood, and was reluctant in yealding up to the

the divine Monitor, which (by her own remarks) exposed her to many deep Conflicts, and temptations, yet frequent, and powerful, were the opperation of the Holy spirit on her mind, Whereby a willingness was wrought in her, to break off from her beloved Companions in Vanity and mirth, by yealding Obedience to the Divine will, altho' she became a byword and division, of those her unprofitable companions. —

About the twentifirst year of her Age she appear'd in Publick Testimony, in which she witnessid an advancement from one degree of faith and Experience to another, in the year 1758 she was Married to Preserved Brayton, of this monthly meeting, whereupon she Commenced a member also, in the attendance of which, and meetings for worship, she was very diligent when Ability of body would admit, (tho' with standing we belive She Surmounted very many discouragements. — A remarkable gravity appeard in her deportment which indicates a reverent awe to cover her mind, especially in her Approaching to perform Divine worship in our assemblies, — And whilst she was under the Parental ties of an Affectionate Mother, she was at times prevented from getting out, and at such times, as also at others, she manifested a Necessity for heavenly bread by calling her family to retirement and Quietude. —

About the middle part of her life, She being one of those who were exersised on Account of the Slavery of the Affricans, was Jointly concernd with her husband, in setting those which they held at liberty, Thus being Assisted to Cleanse her own hands from the iniquity of the times then prevalent, She became Qualified to labour with her Brethren and Sisters, on the

the Account of the liberty of others, which was in time Thoroughly accomplished amongst us, thus Endeavouring to be faithful in the little, She came to be called to a greater field of Labour, &c. A Concern prevailed in her mind for some time, to Visit friends in the Southern Governments, which she gave up to perform, & having the concurrance of friends therein, She set out the 9th day of the 5th Mo. 1771 &c. Notwithstanding the exercise was great, and very many were her conflicts and Proveings &c. The infant state of her family seeming to require her nursing attention, with the exercise of parting with a beloved weakly Husband, cast painful reflections in her mind, Yet that arm that was laid bare for her delivery from her early Captivity, and Sustained her hitherto, was pleased again to perfect Obedience to his requireings, and supported her through many hardships and discouragements in the Course of this Journey, (in her Absence) one of her Children was taken away by death and another soon after her return, in which trials she manifested resignation of mind, and acknowledged the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away, Blessed be his worthy Name &c. She having been from home upwards of one Year in truths service &c. After her return she visited friends families through this monthly meeting to the comfort of the living amongst us, and stiring up of the Lukewarm, and was instrumental in encouraging the weak, and diffident traveler to persevere on, her concern being much for the Unity of the body, &c. She continued about Some several Years, Attending this and the Neighbouring meetings, and once in the said time, She pretty generally visited friends, in the Eastern Quarter of New England. &c

She having had a Concern for a long time, to pay a religious visit to Friends in Great Briton and Ireland in the Year 1783 with the concurrence of her Brethren and Sisters, set forward

forward for Philadelpia, taking meetings in the way, from thence embarked, and was favour'd to arrive safe in Ireland, after Spending some time in visiting Friends there, Proceeded to England, where her concern mostly led, and visited nearly all the meetings of Friends in Great Britain, and was favour'd to return to her family and Friends, in about four Year, with Satisfaction and peace in her own Bosom, and at her return from this and other Visits, Produced Certificates of friends Unity and good satisfaction with her, and Services amongst them; After her return from Europe, being in the decline of life was much about home, Attending her own and the adjacent meetings in the year 1793, she was seized with a fit of the Paralytick disorder, at intervals of which, she was concerned and Assisted to meet with us at our meeting house, tho' much weakened in body, Yet fervent in spirit, and appeared to be renewedly concern'd for the poor, often Administering to their relief. She was one that was diffident of herself, and her performances, and oft had to acknowledge her own unworthiness and as she labour'd to be faithful her endeavours were abundantly blest, to herself, and we trust to many of those amongst whom her Lot was cast — Particularly the Sick and afflicted, with whome her mind was often Baptized in near Sympathy, and favour'd with a sense of their States, to whom through the precious influence of truth She was enabled to administer the wine and Oil of the Kingdom to the Refreshing & consolateing of their Spirits She was a loveing Wife, tender Mother, and much beloved by her Neighbours and Acquaintance.

And having kept the word of his patience, we trust she hath left afflictions behind her, She was Seized with a fit of the like kind as heretofore, and manifested a Sensation of her approaching Dissolution, with calmness and composure Said, She was

was ready, and discovering her Daughter to weep, continued dont mourn for me my Child, for it will be well with me, and having been Assisted to the door for air, She said to those about her carry and lay me on the bed, that I may die in Peace, after which in a Short time she quietly departed this life, the 30th day of the 7th Mo. 1794, and was decently buried the first of the Eighth month, in friends burial Ground at Somerset, after a large and Solemn meeting of friends and Others

We Doubt not but she is one of that number, of whom it is said, Blessed are the Dead which die in the Lord from henceforth, yea, Saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them.

Aged upwards of 61 Years, and a Minister about 41 Years.

Signed in Behalf of our monthly meeting of men and woman Friends held at Somerset for Swanzey the 6th of the 4th Mo. 1795.

By Mary Earl Clerk
Daniel Brayton Clerk

Approved by the Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island and Quarterly Meeting for New England and directed to be Recorded 1795. Compared by Moses Brown

A Testimony from the Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Somerset for Swanzey 2 of the 1st Mo. 1791 ——

Concerning our Friend Theophilus Shove, Deceased ——

As the Memory of the just is pronounced blessed, we think it our duty to give forth a Testimony concerning this our beloved Friend,

He was born at Dighton the 7th of the 4th Mo. 1715 (of honest Parents, Edward and Lydia Shove) and early visited and convinced of the truth, and bore a Publick Testimony for it, before the twenty first year of his age to the satisfaction of Friends ——

Yet through unwatchfulness to that convincing Power that had in a good degree Illuminated his understanding He was captivated and drawn into the wilderness, by the subtle baits of the Enemy for a Season ——

Nevertheless through the Lords goodness and condescention he was mercifully revisited, and Plucked as a brand, out of the midst of its burning, whereby he was raised to sing on the banks of deliverance of the mercies and loveing kindness of the Lord, thus continued from time to time ——

And after a Season of deep Exercise and humiliation, he was favoured, with a Dispensation of the Gospel again, and in and through a diligent attention to the dictates of truth, He witnessed a growth in his gift, and in the improvement thereof, ministered as of the ability which God giveth, exciteing others to keep up the watch, and maintain the guard, devoutly commemorateing favours conferred, and fervently imploreing the continuation thereof ——

He was diligent and Examplary in the attendance of our religious meetings for worship and discipline, altho' laboured under great Infirmity of body at times — and frequently attended adjacent ones within the Compass of our yearly meeting and once visited the Churches thhrough the Western governments as far as

as North Carolina, having our concurrance in those visits, and at his return produced Satisfactory Certificates. He was an affectionate Husband, a tender Parent (having great influence on the minds of his Offspring, by a Steady circumspect Example of self denyal) a good Neighbour, and well beloved by his acquaintance of every rank and Denomination, his life and conversation being grave, yet innocently chearful, which rendered his Company very agreeable.)

He was a lover, and Promoter of peace, Unity and brotherly love Usefull in our Meetings for discipline, being sound in judgement, concerned that the Camp might be Preserved and kept clean. Careful to visit the Sick, and those in affliction, and had to administer of the Wine, and Oil, to their wounds and continued to be living and green to the End of his days.

And in his advanced years had often to express, that he was sensible, that his outward man decayed, but the inward Man grew Stronger and Stronger.

A few weeks before his death having a Shock of the Paralytick (which disorder for many years before had so impared the outward man, that it was with difficulty he took his food) said to some of the Family that he had a desire for some time, that he might not live to be burdensom in his old Age, and he believed his desire would now be answered.

Soon after said he believed he should go like the Snuff of a Candle which proved so, his strength gradually failing to the last, and when asked how he did, His answer generally was, through the whole of his Sickness that he was, easy in body and Mind.

One day several Friends being present, he expressed in substance as follows, that he had for a long time been labouring, to be ready for such a day and hour, that his Sun might go down in its

its full Splendor and brightness, and that the evening curtain might be drawn in calmness, that he might leave a good Savor behind him and the time being come brought no Sorrow; and expressed how necessary it was for every one, to make provision for such a day and time, and had to acknowledge the goodness of God to him, in the abundance of favours he received. A little before his final close being Asked how he did, Answered, I am just passing away out of this Land, and I die in that unshaken Faith, I have believed in.

Thus haveing Finished his course with Joy, and in Unity with the faithfull, like a Sheck of corn fully ripe (We doubt not) He is gathered into the garner of the Lord and made a partaker with the Righteous.

He quietly departed this Life on the 30th of the 3 mo. 1796 in the Eighty first year of his Age, A Minister about Fifty years, and was decently Intered in Friends burying ground in Freetown the first of the fourth month, after a Solemn meeting of Friends and others,

Signed in and on behalf of said Meeting

Daniel Brayton Clerk
By Abigail Lawton Clerk

Approved by the Quarterly Meeting of Rhode Island and the yearly Meeting for New England and Directed to be Recorded

Compared with the Original on file
by Moses Brown

A testimony of the Monthly Meeting of Nantucket for the northern district concerning our late worthy friend Mary Mitchell Deceased.

"Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord," for Such we have the Assurance, there is prepared an Habitation eternal in the Heavens, a Crown of Life that fadeth not away! and of this Number, we have no doubt was our dearly beloved Friend, whose pious life and instructive Conversation Spoke this Language "follow Me as I follow Christ." She was born at Newport on Rhode Island the 10th of 12th Month 1731. of Religious Parents of the Baptist Profession her Father John Callender being for Many Years a teacher in that Society. Being Educated in the Principles of her Parents and beleeving Water Baptism to be a Standing Ordinanance of divine Appointment, about the 20th year of her Age she was baptized, and became a Member of their Religi- communion. She was however Soon made Sensible that the Observance of Outward forms and cerimonies could not Afford that Satisfaction she had hoped and expected to find in them; nor Minister that bread which is Alone able to nourish up the Soul unto eternal Life. In this State of Mind in which she experienced many seasons of tribulation, darkness and perplexity, secret Aspirations were raised in her heart to the great and Holy Head of the Church, that he would be pleased to Mannifest his Mind and Will concerning her, and to direct her in the way she should Walk. After patiently waiting in Resignation for the Arising of his Light, who Openeth and none can shut, and Shutteth and none can Open," She was favoured clearly to Discern that she was required to Seperate herself from those with whom she had heitherto Walked in Religious Fellowship, and embrace the principles of Our Religious Society to which (however Much in the Cross) she gave up, and in so doing experienced that peice she had Long sought as the Ultimate desire of her Soul. In the Thirty Seventh year of

of her Age she was called to the important work of the Ministry, and all the in its commencement she had to labour under some discouragement, yet being favoured to abide in patience, and repose her confidence in that power that never fails to succour his humble dependant children, hard things were made easy and bitter things sweet; and she became strengthened and enabled to persevere in the discharge of her duty to the satisfaction of her own mind and to the Edification of her friends.

She had performed a religious Visit to a part of the States of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and made several Visits to different parts of our own Yearly Meeting prior to her removal to Nantucket, in the year 1786. and from that time till her confinement by indisposition, she was much engaged in Travelling, in the work of the Ministry within our Yearly Meeting. Visiting the families and meetings of Friends and others, and was favoured to return with testimonies of the Approbation of those among whom her Lott had been cast; She also several times visited all the families of Friends on the Island, and we doubt not that her many arduous labours and secret baptisms have been measurably blessed to some of us, to whom the Memory of those refreshing seasons of the heavenly Father's Love is indeed truely precious.

In her public appearances in the Ministry she was careful to move with great circumspection, with an Eye single to the pointings of Truth, cautious not to advance till the lifting up of the cloud from off the Tabernacle, and not to multiply words without the immediate influence of that baptizing power which alone can rightly qualify for the communication of Gospel Truths, so as to minister Grace and Edification to the hearers. She was herself an example of that Christian simplicity which her precepts so forcably recommended; quiet and peaceable in her deportment a Lover of Order and discipline in the Church, and a faithfull reprover of those whose conduct tended to

To Dishonour or bring reproach on the cause which she had so feelingly espoused and which she had so Zealously laboured to promote. c—— She was naturally of a delicate and feeble Constitution; and through the course of her Life had to suffer much from bodily infirmity. yet she Often testified that the Lord's hand was still reveald for her support and preservation. During her long confinement in her last illness, she was at times tried with seasons of poverty. At a time mentioning how poor and Empty she felt, after a solemn Pause she broke forth in sweet and fervent supplication to the Almighty, humbly craving that he would be with his poor Depending Children who have no might of their own, that he would preserve them in Love to each other and to himself;— adding Oh, dear Jesus, thou sweet Immanuel; be pleased we pray thee to be with all those whom thou hast redeemed out of the world who are concerned for the advancement of thy Kingdom of Righteousness in the several quarters of the Earth; that those who sit in darkness, and are in the Shadow of Death, may come to receive the knoledge of thy Gospel of Salvation; preserve them, we pray thee, on the right hand and on the left; suffer not any thing to Mar the work which thou hast begun, make bare thy Holy arm for their support and enable them in meekness and patience to journey forward, trusting in thee and relying wholey upon thee patiently bearing every turning of thy Holy hand; and may they be enabled to say in every Situation and Circumstance of Life "if this cup may not pass from me except I drink of it thy will be done." She was also Often heard to say that she longed to be dissolved that she might be with Christ. She quietly departed this life on the 26th of the 6th M.o 1810 aged 78 years and was interred on the 27th after a publick meeting held on the occation, wherein Several Living testimonies were borne to the goodness and Efficacy of the Author of our Existance. On behalf of the Monthly Meeting 11th M.o 28th 1810. Jethro Mitchel Jr Ann Hussey. Clerks.

Compared by Mosey Brown.

70 A Testimony of the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Rhode Island concerning Mary Mitchell Dec.

Our beloved Friend Mary Mitchell having been many Years a Valuable Member of this Monthly Meeting and some of our Minds retaining the lively Savour of her exemplary life and religious Labours; we are concerned to bear Testimony to the Christian Virtues with which she Adorned her profession; and thereby to commemorate the efficacy of that grace through which she experienced preservation, and became truly qualified to promote the cause of Righteousness.

She was born in Newport, Rhode Island the 10th of 12th Mo. 1731. her parents John and Elizabeth Callender were of the Baptist Society in which her Father was many years a Minister and under their pious care she was preserved from the contaminating influence of vain licentious company by which there is cause to Apprehend many are deeply, and even fatally infected. When she was about Eighteen years of age, being deprived of her father by death, Joseph and Sarah Jacob who had long entertained a strict friendship for him, gave her an Invitation to become one of their family which she Accepted and continued to live with them till their decease; and she Acknowledged that the Instructive conversation and Example of these Valuable friends, and others whom she met with at their house proved a particular blessing to her. not long after she resided with them the renewed Visitations of divine Love were graciously extended to her, and desires raised to lead a more strictly religious Life, But not duly waiting for the arising of the "Sun of Righteousness", by which the Mist of early prepossession might have been dissolved; She apprehended it requisite for her not only to be exemplary in the practice of what she Esteemed religious duties, but to Submit to the Ordinances which she had been taught to believe were divinely instituted, She was Accordingly baptized in the Twentieth year of her Age and Continued for Several Years in the careful Observance of the religious Exercises in which she was educated, But the father of Spirits who doubtless saw her Integrity, did not permit her to take up her rest in Outward performances, but by the revelation of his Son Jesus Christ in her

Her heart enabled her to look beyond that typical and
temporary dispensation, and to experience that when the substance
is come all shadows disappear, having been thus mercifully
favoured with the arising of the day star and her mind being humbled
Under a sense of the Insufficiency of human reason to discover the
way in which the most high is pleased to lead his Servants, she recei-
-ved "with meekness the ingrafted word," & patiently waited for the further
discovery of his will concerning her, in obedience to the manifesta-
-tions where of she joined in membership with friends in the year
1762. tho her mind had been deeply baptized into death to her
Natural Inclinations, previous to her renouncing some of her heri-
-ditary religious opinions, yet many were the subsequent
inmersions & severe conflicts she experienced, but having care-
-fully examined the ground on which she had advanced thus
far and believing with the Apostle that "as many as are baptize-
-ed into Jesus Christ, are baptized into his death," that so they
may know "the power of his resurrection unto life"; and her faith in
Him who had called her unto holyness being steadfast
she was mercifully preserved from looking back, and in the
37th year of her age she was called to preach the Gospel which
She had proved to be "the power of God unto Salvation."

In the Exercise of the precious gift bestowed upon her, She
Manifested great care to distinguish the arising of the pure
Spring of Life, from the suggestions of Imagination, or the
Influence of untempered Zeal, and was much preserved from
mingling the Alloy of human wisdom & studied Eloquence
with her religious Communications. In testimony She
was sound, deep & clear; and often reached the Witness
in the hearts of her Auditory, as many of us can feelingly
testify; and fervent in her approaches to the Throne of Grace,
in Vocal Supplication. Her natural Understanding was
quick and penetrating, her Judgment Sound, and her
Conversation and deportment agreeable and Instructive
& tho precipitate in the Selection of her intimate friends, She
was faithful and Uniform in her Attachment to them; and
Tenderly Sympathized with the afflicted, being often Engaged
in Visiting them and Commissioned to Administer Consolation and
Encouragement to the exercised Mind; and in these Labours of Love

Love the Poor were not forgotten by her. Being firmly Established in our christian Principles she was Zealous in the Support of the Testimonies that arise from them; and carefull to guard against any thing which might tarnish their Luster, or impair their dignity which rendered her particularly Serviceable in Meetings for Discipline.

She travell'd much in the cause of Truth in the compass of our Yearly Meeting amongst Friends and others; and was frequently engaged in the weighty Service of Visiting Friends in their families for which she was well Qualified, being remarkably enabled to discern the State of individuals & to minister to them, "In demonstration of the Spirit & of power." Her Gospel Labours were twice Extended thro some parts of the State of New York and once as far Jersey & Pennsylvania, and on her return She produced ~~certificate~~ Satisfactory Testimonials of the Unity and Approbation of Friends whom She had Visited.

In 1778 She believed it right for her to Spend some time in divers of the Adjacent Monthly Meetings; and the Usual Intercourse between this Island and the Continent being much interrupted by War She was recommended by Certificate in the 5th Mo. of that Year to Friends of Smithfield Monthly Meeting & resided within the Limits of that and Greenwich Monthly Meetings for several Years. In the 11th Mo. 1778 She was married in Providence to our late worthy friend Joseph Mitchell and in 1781 they removing to this Island. She was again a Member of our Meeting till after the Decease of her Husband concerning whom she has left an honorable Testimony. In the year 1787. She removed to Nantucket. She afterward frequently visited friends of this, and many other places, and tho often greatly afflicted with the increasing infirmities of a Constitution naturally Delicate, and for many years extreamly feeble; yet her Spiritual Life appeared to increase in Strength; and by "Abiding in the Vine", She was Preserved green and fruitfull to Advanced Age, and was gathered as a Shock of Corn fully ripe we doubt not into the heavenly Garner on the 26th of the 6th Mo. 1810 Aged 79 years and on the 27th her remains were interd in the burying Ground of Friends on Nantucket. Signed

I signd in and on behalf of the Monthly Meeting held
at Newport for Rhode Island the 3rd of 1st Mo. 1811.
by Lowre Taylor, Hannah Gould Jr. Clerks.
Compared by Moses Brown.

A Testimony respecting our Deceased Friend Mehetable
Jenkins from Berwick Monthly Meeting.

Feeling it our duty to preserve some Memorial of the
Virtuous Life, gospel Labours, and peaceful Close of our
dear deceased friend Mehetable Jenkins, who remains pre-
-cious in our remembrance who early settled within the compass
of our Meeting, We have therefore had repeated Opportunities
of Witnessing in her that State of Innocency and unaffected Pi-
-ety which adorned and filled her under divine Influence
for the Work of the Ministry, that she became an Ornament to
Society in the cause of Truth and righteousness. Having passed
through seasons of deep probation in her spiritual exercises
and known an overcoming through sufferings, she was
Enabled to speak experimentaly, to the comfort of the Mourn-
ers in Zion, and to the encouragement of the heavy hea-
-rted in their various conflicts, many of whom can testi-
-fye, that she as a Mother in Israel was qualified rightly to divide
the word, to their edifycation. She being concerned in the
latter years of her Life to preserve some Account of the gra-
-cious Dealings of the Lord with her from her youth, we
Select therefrom such parts as appear suited to the design
of this Memorial by which it Appears she was born at a place
called Richmond on the western side of Kennebeck River
in the 4th Month 1731. of religious parents of the Presbyteri-
-an Society Joshua and Sarah Way mouth her Father dy-
-ing when she was young her Mother endeavoured to
instruct her Children in the way she believed to be
right; and to give them such Learning as she was
able without the help of Schools, that part of the Country
being then a Wilderness. Our friend took delight as
she observes in reading the Bible, and other religious
Books, having early received Impressions of the Importa-
-nce of Religion, attended with desires to be come an

One of the Righteous. Near the eleventh year of her Age, she went to Live with her Aunt Tabitha Weymouth (afterwards Tabitha Jenkins) a worthy Member of Our Society, about the time her said Aunt came forth in the Ministry; under whose tender care she was encouraged to Attend friends Meetings tho often in fear of being deceived, and in time her inward Eye became Opend by the holy Anointing to see the Truth altogether Lovely and Chief among Ten Thousands; whereby she was enabled cheerfully to lay a aside all superfluity of Dress, Impropriety of Language & behaviour, and to embrace that plainness which she believed to be consistant with the life of a Christian, in which state of self denial she found peace of Mind, tho often ~~often~~ felt alone as to outward Company, and frequently had to Struggle with her natural propensities which stood Oppos'd to the Cross; and sometimes when in Company with young people, where there were lightness and Vanity, and felt a word of reproof or advice to Arise she desired to be hid & withheld what Appeard right to Communicate, for which Omission she had at times to Suffer deeply, and often had to pass through nights of Sorrow fearing she should be finaly forsaken, but the most high shewed her there was no Other way for her to find Peace of Mind but by Obedience to what was Made Mannifest to be her duty, by the light of Christ, the Flameing Sword still keeping her from the Tree of Life, untill she gave up her whole heart, willing to become a fool to the wisdome of this world for Christ sake, About the 19th or 20th year of her Age she first Appeard in the Ministry at a Publick Meeting in Dover with these words of Christ, Viz Come unto me all you that Labour and are heavy Laden and I will give you rest, take My Yoke upon you and Learn of me

Me for I am meek and Lowly in heart and you shall
find rest to your Soals, which was attaind with great
Peace, having been under the exercise for several Months
previous in which she frequently left the Meeting with a
heavy heart, viewing herself unfit for so great a Service
but the Lord who knew the sincerity and innocency of her
heart, made way and enabled her to communicate
what rested on her Mind from time to time, to her
own strength and comfort, and by abideing in a State
of Humility, she experienced a growth in the Ministry
to the Satisfaction of her friends. In the 7th Mo. 1755
she was Married to our Esteemed friend Elijah Jenkins,
when the care of a family devolved upon her wherein
she was favoured, with wisdom to discharge her duty
towards them with Meekness, and Love, setting an Example
of Piety and Virtue, until about the year 1770, when
her prospect for Religious service which had been Opening
for some time, became more extensive; in 1772 She
went on visit to the Meetings of Friends in the Southern
State which was performed in about One Year, to her own
Peace and the Satisfaction of Friends. In 1777 she visited
the Meetings of friends at Nantucket & Dartmouth.
in 1779 she visited friends and friendly people in the
Eastern parts of the district of Maine. When at home
she was diligence in the attendance of Meetings and
frequently engaged in visiting families, a practice
which lay near her heart. In 1783 She with the Approba-
tion of Friends, she embarked from Philadelphia on
a visit to Friends in England Great Britain & Ireland
agreeably with a prospect which had long been Opening
in her Mind; previously attending some Meetings in
the State of New York & Pennsylvania in which Ser-
vice she was absent from her family about four Years
the Unity and Sympathy expressed in all her Returned Certifi-
cates clearly Evince that her labours of Love were not in Vain in

In 1798 she again Visited friends in the State of Rhode Island, New York and Pensylvania to her own & friends Satisfaction. The last considerable Journey she performed was in the year 1807. to friends in the western parts of New York & Pennsylvania — whilst out on this Journey she received the effecting intelligence of the Death of her husband; after this she continued Mostly at and about home; sometimes Visiting Families & Neighboring Meetings when in health. — And in 1814 She Spent the Summer in that Service of which she wrote as follows, "It dwells on my Mind to acknoledge the Mercies and loveing kindness of my heavenly Father, in Enableing me now in the 84th year of My Age to perform a Visit to friends in the Upper part of Rochester, Gilman town "Sandwich & Woolfborough which had been on my Mind some "time. — Visited Families Mostly and found best help afford "-ordered Strength in Weakness, I was enabled to return in peace. "Oh that I may so live the remainder of My days as to be "bringing forth Fruit in old Age to the praise & honour of his "blessed and worthy Name who has done so much for me, "an Unworthy object of his Mercy; enableing Me to say and "Witness his Mercy endureth for Ever. — Bless the Lord O my "Soul and all that is within Me praise his holy name" She was frequently confined by short Sicknesses, but when able attended Meetings untile within a few — Weeks of her Decease, in which her Communications were as Lively and instructive as at any time previous and her concern for the Promotion of Truth Suffered no Diminution. She expressed her continued concern for the revival of the practice of Visiting Families. And about Ten days before her Departure she wrote as follows, I have not written any thing for several Months, and as it has been a trying time of Late both by Sickness and Death as well as otherwise being My Self Poor in Mind and in a weak State of bodily health but

"Feel and An Anker of hope a grain of Faith that I shall Shall receive the Crown at the End of the race in the Lords Time for which I desire to wait patiently, He knows I Love his Appearance above every Other Enjoyment, whatever Else can be named, I can Bless and Praise his holy name for Mercies past and humbly hope for More, Oh! the desire I feel for Others as well as for My self, that that the Sting of Death, which is Sin, May be taken away, before they go hence to be Sun of Men no More; giving all dilligence to Make their calling and Election Sure, while they have time and the door of Mercy Stands Open". After this she continued in a feble State, tho' not confind till within a few days of her close; and Experi-enced to the last the full Enjoyment of her Mental faculties and above all an Unclouded Tranquility of Mind Uttering Many pre-cious Expressions. At the commencement of her Sickness she said, The issue of her confinement was hidden from her and that she felt no anxiety on that account, having ~~having~~ no choice; but if she were permited to chuse it would be to go. — To some Friends who visited her on first day Evening 12th of 11th Mo. 1815, She Expressed her-self to the following import Viz: That She was glad to see them & felt desirous to seas many of her Friends as could conveniently visit her; that she felt her love to flow to all Friends, every where; Enquir-ing after several living at a distance, who she said were made very near made very near to her; She tenderly exhorted those present to faith-fulness; adding If friends were not more given up to the manifes-tation of duty others would be called in from the highways and hedges, saying the Lord will have his table filled with Guests and further said she had never found any other way to obtain true peace; but by faithfully discharging what appeared to be her duty; and altho she had sometimes laboured under great weakness & had often to acknowledge that she was an unprofitable Servant; Yet she had great consolation in the reflection that she had endeavoured to perform what she thought was required at her hands. To some Friends, who visited her the day before her decease she expressed her resignation saying that "She had no

not desire to be raised up again, but if that should be the case, She believed the Lord would have a purpose in it, and gave caution & advice, to some who visited her. All which gave a clear evidence that she was prepared for her dissolution which took place in a few hours after — On the 16th she was interred; a large number of Friends and others attended, in whose presence a lively testimony was borne to her worth and to the efficacy of that power which supported her through her various conflicts —

Signed on behalf of Berwick Monthly Meeting held 19th of 4th mo 1816 By —

Joshua Jenkins Clerk of mens

Lydia Rogers Clerk of womans Meeting.

A Testimony respecting our deceased Friend Mehetabel Jenkins from Berwick monthly Meeting was read approved, and directed to be Signed by the clerk and forwarded to the Meeting for sufferings

Extracted from the minutes of a Quarterly Meeting held at Dover the 25th of the 4 mo 1816

Richard Dame Clerk

A Testimony of the monthly meeting of Smithfield concerning Elisha Thornton deceased.

Notwithstanding our beloved friend Elisha Thornton removed with his family from within the compass of this monthly meeting, nearly 10 years ago yet from his having been for many years a valuable and much

estemed member of this Meeting, having faithfully and zealously labour'd for the promotion of Rightousness, and the remembrance of him being precious to many of us, we fulcrum minds Engaged to give forth this testimoney concerning him. — He was born in Smithfield the 30th of the 4th Mo 1747 old style. His parents were Ebenezer & Ruth Thornton who being in Low circumstances, were unable to afford him the benifits of much school learning, yet possessing strong natural abilities aided by his own industrious application he attain'd a considerable share of useful literature. — In his early youth being of a lively disposition, it appears he indulged a propensity to the follies and vanites incident to youth, but feeling the reproving witness of grace in the secret of his heart manifesting to him his condition, and the danger that awaited a continuence therein; and submiting to its restraining operation, he was enabled to forsake his former unprofitable company and vain amusements and to dedicate his Life to the service of his heavenly father. Under this humbling & contriting manifestation of divine love he became concern'd to atend the meetings of friends, and in the year 1771 he requested the care and became a member of this monthly meeting. in the 27th year of his age he was appointed to the station of an elder, Wherin he acted with caution, humility & circumspection evincive of a mind impress'd with a due sense of the wight and importance thereof —

He

He was frequently engaged in the important service of visiting families, in which he was well qualified, and we trust his private admonitions and labours of love were Blessed to the reaching of the witness in many minds. (Abiding faithful to the manifestation of truth he became prepared for the reception of the gift of the ministry and about the 29th year of his age was called to preach the gospel, which he had indeed witness to be the power of God unto salvation. For several years his appearance in the ministry was but seldome with short tho' acceptable testimonies; and by thus patiently waiting attentive to the voice of the true Shepherd of Israel he Experienced a growth until he arrived at the state of a father in the Church capable of rightly dividing the word to the different States ministered unto. He was a man of quick apprehension and capacious mind of an edifying & instructive conversation. Deeply concerned for the welfare of the whole human family, he laboured faithfully in tenderness and love for an advancement in the way of holiness with a mind clothed with universal charity and benevolence, Truly has a man been so universally beloved and respected among us. He was a tender affectionate husband and father and a kind neighbour visiting the widow and the fatherless in their afflictions and often qualified to administer relief & consolation to their dejected minds —

For many years he was usefully engaged in keeping a boarding School. In the exercise of his gift in the ministry he several times visited the different parts of our yearly meeting very acceptably to his friends as his Returning certificates testified

In the year 1801 he attended the meetings in the Southerly part of the Yearly Meeting of Shrewsbury and in the year 1803 he attended the Yearly Meeting there to the Satisfaction of his friends and peace of his own mind. His ministry was sound and edifying and we have no doubt was made instrumental to the converting of many to the truth. By his depth in religious attainments he was qualified like the scribe instructed unto the kingdom out of the treasure of his own experience to bring forth things new and old, to the edification of those unto whom he ministred. The doctrine on which he very often dwelt especially of latter years was the Love of God to man and the efficacy of the pure principle of light and grace in the soul Soliciting above every other consideration, obedience to its holy manifestation as being the alone power that can redeem and preserve the mind from the spirit of the world, and confer that peace which the world can neither give nor take away. He removed with his family in the year 1807 to New Bedford where he resided with the exception of a short interval, until his close making us frequent acceptable visits the last of which was a few months before his decease. He departed this Life at his house in New Bedford on the 31st of 12th mo. 1816 and we doubt not is entered into the the place of his rest for with there is a reward for the righteous ——— ———

Signed in and on behalf of Said monthly Meeting held 24th of 4th Mo 1817

By

John Osborne
Alice Ruthlun } Clerks

The Within testimony was read and approved by Smithfield Quarterly Meeting held at Northbridge the 8th of 5 Mo 1817 and ordered to be Signed by the Clerks

David Smith
Patience Earle } Clerks

Compared by
Moses Brown.

A testimony from the Monthly Meeting of Friends at Westport in the State of Massachusetts concerning our beloved Friend and Elder Jeremiah Austin. — He was the son of Robert and Hannah Austin of Charlestown in the State of Rhode Island where he was born the 24th day of the 3d Month 1730, his parents being poor, he was at an Early age, hired out to labour for their Support and was by that Means not only deprived of the Necessary bennefit of Schools, but consequently exposed to Many temptations where unto his Active Mind, yeilded and he indulged in the Amusements and follies incident to the Young and inconsiderate: for in his Youth he was inclined to vanity and disipation, But being Mercifully Visited by divine grace immediately revealed in his heart he was enabled to see the deplorable State into which his poor Soul had been brought through Sin. Great was the Anguish and distress he was brought into at that time, as

As some of us have heard him relate, but in process of time he found relief to his distressed mind, by being enabled to yield to the Operation of the Spirit of Truth, and to take up a resolution to forsake the evil of his ways, and to live a more Circumspect Life.

Soon after he attained the age of manhood, he became convinced of the propriety and usefulness of religious fellowship, and was joined therein to the Society of Friends in the Monthly Meeting of South Kingstown, and being concerned so to run, that he might obtain the crown of eternal life, he was preserved from sitting down contentedly in an outward profession, and became engaged to press forward to experience a fellowship and communion with the father and the Son; and continuing to grow in grace and in the saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the noble talents with which he was endued, became sanctified, and he was qualified to fill with dignity, and propriety, the station assigned him in the Church.

He began with little of the things of this world, but being diligent and industrious in providing for the comfort and accommodation of a numerous family, as well as concerned for Truth's prosperity, he was blessed in his labours, so that he lived comfortably and maintained his family reputably, supporting the character of an honest peaceable man; and was often instrumental in restoring peace among his friends and neighbours; a service for which he was well qualified, his judgment being sound, and his manner mild and persuasive: which gave him great influence over the turbulent and unruly dispositions of some minds, so that they would listen to his propositions

He gave evident proof that he was attentive

both to his relative and social duties, and while he was diligent in business, united a fervency of spirit, serving the Lord: not suffering his temporal concerns to divert his attention from the exemplary attendance of meeting both for worship and discipline: He was also concerned to promote the attendance of his family, and was helpful in getting them to meetings, from which he mostly lived remote. He zealously engaged for good order and comely behaviour in meetings and that they be conducted in the most proper time. In meetings of discipline he became eminently useful, having been instructed by the precept of Christ, that "whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you do ye even so to them.

His love to the young and rising generation was strong and fervent, and he was often led into near sympathy with them in their various trials and temptations, knowing by his own experience, that they were greatly exposed upon by their mixing with the spirit of the world. His meekness and love gave him great place in their minds, and we hope his exemplary life and pious admonitions will prove to some of the present age, like bread cast upon the water which may be seen after many days.

His obedience to the Truth deeply fixed upon his mind the immutable principle of justice, and was early convinced to support our testimony against the holding of our fellow-men in a state of Slavery, in which his zealous labours among his friends were blessed in several instances; and his precepts were Enforced by his own example, for his Wife having by legacy a female Slave left to her by her Father she was immediately manumitted. He was, indeed, concerned faith-

fully to maintained our religious testimony in all its branches, and with Christians patience suffered much loss of goods in support of that against War.

He continued a member of South-Kingston Monthley Meeting untill about the year 1766 when he removed to Rochester, in the state of Massachusetts, and was nearly twenty years very acceptably united with Friends of Sandwich Monthly Meeting; and in the year 1785 by by removing to Little-Compton in the state of Rhode Island, became a member of our meeting. Here he continued to devote much of his time and talents to the best of all causes that of universal righteousness.

He was a very pleasant and Cheerful companion conspicuous for his humility and true Christian benevolence, of great simplicity and temperance, and civil beyond the usual forms of breeding. His character was highly esteemed both among Friends and others, in the different neighbourhoods where he resided.

He was employd in his usual occupation of husbandry untill within two of his decease: when after the death of his Wife, and his children being all married, he gave up business, often mentioning with gratitude, the blessing that had followed his diligence and industry whereby he had been enabled to educate his family and support them with comfort all his life long, and further expressed that he had settled his affairs so that he did not know, that he owed any person

Having spent most of the two last years in visiting his children, who were remotly situated: he attended the Quartely Meeting early in the 12th Month 1815 at New-Bedford, and returning to his grand-son's Joshus Austins, in nearly usual health, was soon after taken unwell and remained so about two weeks, but was not wholy confined

to the house: when on the morning of the 20th of the same month after breakfasting as usual he fell from his chair in a fit, and being laid on the bed soon after expired, age upwards of eighty five years; and on the 23d of the month was buried in Friends burying ground in Little Compton, after a solid Meeting of Friends and others.

As he had lived, so he died in the unshaken faith that he had not followed cunningly devised fables but the pure and everlasting truth.

Signed in behalf of our Monthley Meeting of men and Women Friends held at West port the 21st day of the 11th month 1816

By Ebenezer Baker
Esther Newitt } Clerks

At Sandwich Qarterly Meeting held at New Bedford, 12th month 5th 1816

The foregoing Testimony of Westport monthly Meeting concerning our beloved friend Jeremiah Austin deceased, was read and approved by this meeting

Compared by Moses Brown. Abraham Shearman
Jr Clerk

A Testimony of Swansea Monthly Meeting concerning
Jonathan Chase.

Our beloved Friend Jonathan Chase, was born in Swansey 29th of 6th Mo 1746. His Parents John & Lydia Chase, were members of the religious society of Friends: consequently this their son had a right of membership in the Society: yet this privilege, together with the precious Principle of Truth, had not that governing influence on his mind, as to render him altogether subservient to the Christian rules of Society - And by his not keeping unto that, whereby, it is said, a young man may cleanse his ways, he ran into the vain customs and vanities of the world, and lost his right of membership among Friends. Giving himself great latitude, and deviated far from the Principle of Truth, in associating with his companions in folly. But the seed of conviction, was so deeply rooted in his heart, that he did not long remain in a state of alienation, from the principles, in which he had been educated, and was stopped in his career, not wholly unlike the Apostle Paul: and as a brand plucked from the burning, he was mercifully preserved; for the inward teachings of divine Truth, wrought so powerfully on his mind, as to produce a real change of heart. Thus yielding to the yoke of Christ, and coming under the government of the Divine Monitor he manifested a desire to be reunited to the Society, and was again received into membership with Friends.

Having thus experienced the purifying power of the Holy Spirit, and the necessary Baptisms which prepare the mind to be gathered into a state of true waiting and watchfulness; he was enabled humbly to rely upon God.

In the dispensation of Divine Goodness, He was intrusted with a gift in the ministry; in the exercise of which, he was acceptably received among his friends at home, also in his visits to the neighbouring Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, that in the love of the Gospel he was at various times concerned to visit, and being faithful to the divine Witness was favour'd to enjoy that peace that the world knows not of, and through the assistance of the Holy Spirit, became qualified to speak a word in season to those who were ready to faint. He was a nursing Father lending a hand of help to the feeble minded, and comforting the mourners in Zion: Altho he spake not with inticing words of mans wisdom, yet his doctrine dropped as the Dew, and his speech as the small Rain, —

He was diligent in the attendance of all our religious Meetings, Engaged to labour for good order, and the maintainance of the Discipline: frequently adverting to the zeal, piety and perseverance, as well as sufferings, of our worthy Predecessors, as purchasers of many of our precious privileges: thereby inforcing the necessity of our walking worthy of so great a favour: and especially the youth, that there might be a succession of standard bearers to espouse the cause of Truth. — And those who had set their faces Zionward, he encouraged to persevere,

that they might hold out to the end: saying agreeably to scripture testimony, "he that endureth to the end shall be saved."

He often visited the widow and the fatherless, the sick and the afflicted (others as well as Friends) with whom he was often baptized in near sympathy, and favoured with a sense of their state: to whom through the influence of Truth, he was enabled at times to administer the Wine and the Oil of the Kingdom: to the refreshing and consolation of their spirits— The more thoughtless and careless ones were put in remembrance of the one thing needful, that of working out their souls salvation with fear and trembling—

As he advanced in years, through infirmities of the body, the outward man seemed rather to fail: yet his spiritual strength increased and grew stronger; never appearing more bright in his public testimonies, than towards the close of his stay here, He often acknowledged that, the Truth was never more precious to him, than at that period: and by abiding in the vine he was preserved Green and Faithful to the last.

On the day of his departure, he attended Meeting bore a living Testimony for the Truth, to the edification of his Friends: and concluded by saying, "my peace I give unto you, my peace I leave with you": After which he returned home and died suddenly before he entered his House.

As he was generally respected and beloved, so his death was lamented and the loss sensibly felt, but we have consolation in believing that our loss is his eternal

gain

yain— Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright for the end of that man is peace—

"He departed this life the 25th of 7mo 1824 and was interred in friends burying ground in Somerset the 27th Aged 78 years and a Minister about forty three years—

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Meeting aforesaid held the mo 182 } of } By } Thomas Wilbers, Hannah Earle } Clerks

Compared with the Original from the yearly Meeting. Approved by the Meeting for Sufferings —

Testimony concerning Samuel Thurston deceased.

The recent death of our beloved friend Samuel Thurston being sensibly felt to be a loss to this part of the Militant Church, we feel engaged to furnish a short testimony concerning his exemplary life and zealous labours for the promotion of Truth and Righteousness amongst us: and to encourage survivors to "follow him as we trust he follow Christ."

He was born in Newport Rhode Island the 4th of the 6th month 1751. His parents John & Elizabeth Thurston were professors in the Church of England, in which persuasion he was strictly educated; and from accounts which some of us have heard him relate, with respect to his religious exercises in his youthful days, we have no doubt of the sincerity of his heart in the mode of worship, which at that period of his life, he was in the

observance of: but the visitations of Divine Love, with which he was favoured, impressed on his mind the necessity of seeking for something beyond the forms and ceremonies that he had hitherto practised; and in this state of mind, he occationally visited several different places of worship, untill the removal of his parents to Portsmouth, when he became a diligent attender of Friends meetings, wherein he was fully convinced that it was right for him to adhear to the simple mode of worship practiced by us; and notwithstanding our meetings were frequently held in silence; yet he has humbly acknowledged (as some of us can testify) that he often experienced them to be seasons of refreshment and enlargement in religious understanding, and particularly those held in the middle of the week, had been blessed to him.— He had not long attended those meetings, before he found it to be a part of his religious duty to adopt the plain, Scripture language; and (tho much in the cross) to begin with using it first to his parents, who were opposed to his new views of religion;— they however treated him with affection, and gradually became reconciled, from a better understanding of the reason of his change.— This continuing faithful to the requisitions of duty as manifested in the secret of his soul, he in the year 1782 sought admission into, and was united in religious fellowship, with the Society of Friends; and while thus reviewing his religious progress; and in a renewed sense of his usefulness to the Church we can fully testify that he adorned the doctrine he

he professed. — In our meetings for worship he gave evidence, by his solid and reverent deportment of the weightiness of his spirit, and of his just views of the nature of Spiritual Worship.

In his subsequent labours, both in the Station of Elder and Overseer, he was Zealous and skillful; manifesting a lively concern for the preservation of right order in the administration of the discipline; in the support whereof he was active, firm and often successful in gaining those with whom he was engaged to labour. — He was pleasant and often very interesting in conversation, kind & liberal to the Poor; hospitable to strangers; and a good example of plainness in habit, manners and the furniture of his house. — Thus he continued a faithful standard bearer; retaining even in advanced age, a freshness of feeling and great religious sensibility, evincing to those associated with him in labour, that they who abide in the Vine, "have their fruit unto holiness & their end everlasting life". —

He attended our monthly meeting 30th of 12th month 1824, being nearly in usual health, and in the evening of that day was taken ill, his situation was not such as to induce an apprehension that he would be speedily removed; but his complaint soon assumed a more formidable aspect, and baffled medical skill, depriving him of his mental faculties. — While these remained, he manifested his continued care and concern for the society of which he was a member, and his desire for its preservation.

He lived until 8th of 1st mo. 1825 when it pleased our heavenly Father to release him from further sufferings, and we are thankful in believing that our loss is his exceeding great gain. — For blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. —

On the 10th his remains were carried to Friends Meeting House at Portsmouth and after a large and solemn Meeting held on the occation, were decently intered in our burying ground at that place. —

Signed in behalf and by direction of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting held at Newport 26th of 1st Mo 1826. by

Approved by the Meeting for Sufferings.

David Rodman Clerk
Ruth Rodman Clerk

Compared. —

A Testimony of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting concerning Elizabeth Mott deceased. —

Our beloved friend Elizabeth Mott, was the youngest daughter of Jacob & Mary Mott of Portsmouth, on Rhode Island and born in the year 1728. —

Through a blessing on the pious parental care that she was favourd with, she was preserved in her youthful days in a good degree of innocence and simplicity of mind and manners, and her taste for reading being directed to works of a religious tendancy — particularly the holy scriptures, and the writings of our ancient Friends — the ground of her heart was prepared profitably to receive the visitations of divine love, which were extended to her in early life; and by yealding to their influance, she became qualified to discharge

in an examplary manner, the various and important duties of an attentive and sympathizing daughter to her aged father; — an affectionate sister, — in her brothers family to exercise judicious maternal tenderness and care towards his children, and to become a valuable member of our religious Society; in administering the discipline of which and in its various services, she was much and usefully employed having for some years acceptably filled the very important station of an Elder —

In 1778 a dispensation of the Gospel ministry was intrusted to her, in the exercise of which she evinced humility and care. The deep sense of the awfulness of the vocation which rested on her mind, was apparent in the solemnity of her countenance & demeanour when engaged either in testimony or vocal supplication; and her labours of love, both in public and in private opportunities, were often awakening to the negligent & encouraging & consoling to the afflicted, whom she sympathized with an frequently visited

During the revolutionary war, she was brought under deep mental exercise, from an apprehension of duty to address the legislature of this Colony. — After duly pondering the weighty concern, in her own mind, she imparted it to her friends & being encouraged by them, she wrote a pertinent communication, strongly recommending to their observance the two first commandments, as comprising the whole duty of man, and the principle that ought to govern their proceedings. It was approved by the Meeting for Sufferings, who manifested much sympathy with her on the occation, and left her at liberty to proceed in regard to it, in the manner that accorded best with her prospects. She accordingly enclosed it in a letter to the Governour, & requested him to present it to the general Assembly, which he did at their session in the year 1780. It was respectfully received and read.

Her dedication was again put to a close & of latter times an unusual trial in the winter of 1791-2, when she believed it was required of her to deliver a Gospel message to the people in the streets of New Port. Being of a disposition naturally diffident and retiring, and deeply impressed with the awfulness of the requisition she experienced a severe conflict previous to her becoming resigned to it, but being strengthened by the unity of sympathizing friends, and still more availingly by the arm of the all sufficient Helper of those who trust in him: in whom she had learned to confide, she was enabled to accomplish the service in a manner that produced a testimony from some of the religiously inclined amongst her auditors (not of our religious society) to the authenticity of her commission to address them; — to the satisfaction of the friends who bore her company, and as it appeard, much to the relief and comfort of her own mind. In the evening of that day, after a season of solemn silence in the family of two of those friends who accompanied her, she weightily expressed that she "felt fearful of interrupting the precious sabbath rest into which her spirit had been introduced, but she apprehended that some vocal acknowledgement was due from her to the goodness and bounty of Him who had permitted her to enjoy it. —

She never travelled beyond the limits of this Yearly Meeting, but visited several of the Quarterly Metings which compose it, and on her return produced satisfactory testimonials that her gospel labours were acceptable to friends where she had been. As long as bodily ability was afforded her, she diligently attended our own Quarterly Meeting — which at that time included a large compass, and was held at different places, — and occationally visited other meetings belonging to it, and she continued to be examplary in performance of that duty which in this Monthly

Meetings long after a lameness that she was many years afflicted with, rendered it painful and difficult for her to get into a carriage. The gradual increase of that lameness & general debility of her limbs, with the usual infirmities of declining age confined her at home about eight years, & the last five of her life to her Chamber, and mostly to her bed. She bore this long confinement with much patience and resignation, her conversation was often animated and cheerful and being accompanied with that religious care which evidently dwelt upon her mind, was very interesting and instructive.——

In this state of great bodily weakness and seclusion (however she may have appeared to distant & cursory observers as a vessel laid aside.— unfit for further service). She retained a lively interest in the welfare of the society and manifested great solicitude for the support of its peculiar doctrines and testimonies; and that its discipline should be preserved from innovation, a desire for greater liberty than the Truth allows if not sedulously guarded against — would lead into; she encouraged friends who visited her to vigilence and faithfulness, and was enabled to strengthen the hands of some whose views and feelings in these respects coincided with her own.—

During this period her mind was at times deeply exercised on subjects of a more public, as well as of a more private nature than this. The African Slave Trade which was then illicitly, but pretty openly prosecuted from this state, became a grevious burden to her susceptible mind, from which she could find no relief but by addressing those engaged in the iniquitous traffick. In the summer of 1806, she accordingly wrote a close and pathetic expostulation, which being approved by the Meeting for Sufferings, a copy was sent

to each of those who were known to be concerned in that business, and it was afterwards inserted in one of the public papers in the town of Newport

She was also frequently brought under deep exercise on account of individuals to whom she believed it was required of her to impart counsel or caution, several of whom she had no personal acquaintance with. Some were invited on these occations to her bed side, and to others she communicated what was on her mind in letters, though from the great prostration of her bodily strength, she could hardly write legibly, they were therefore copied by a friend and signed by herself. These deep engagements were renewed at times till within a few months of her decease, affording a striking illustration of the Psalmists expression — "Those that be planted in the house of the Lord, shall flourish in the Court of our God, They shall bring forth fruit in old age."

Having gradually sunk under much suffering & the powers of nature being nearly exhausted, she was seized by apoplexy the 4th of 2d month 1813, which terminated her mortal life about thirty hours after, and we have no doubt that she has "entered into the joy of her Lord"

On the 7th her remains were carried to friends Meeting house at Portsmouth, and after a solemn Meeting, interred in our burying ground there

She was in the 85 year of her age, a minister about 35 years

Signed in behalf and by direction of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting at Newport 26 of 12 mo 1826 by

David Rodman
Ruth Rodman Clerks

Approved by the Meeting for Sufferings.

A Testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting, respecting James Davis deceased —

To preserve a Memorial of the lives of those who have been devoted in their day, to the cause of Truth and righteousness, and whose example has adorned the profession they have made, has ever been considerd a tribute due to their Memory; and an incitement to those who may succeed them, to follow in the path they have trod, through the many trials and vicissitudes of time, to the crown of all, a peacefull Close, in a well grounded hope of Glory, honour and immortal life. — It is from considerations of this kind, that we are led to preserve some Memorial of the Pious and examplary life and peaceful close of our late worthy friend James Davis. He was born at *

Although the Subject of this Memoir was deprived at an early age of his worthy Parent, the impression made upon his tender Mind, by his council and example and the continued care of a pious Mother, Appear through the influance of divine love, to have been a Means of Preservation to him in after life. —

When he had attained to years of manhood he settled at Bedford (then included in the township of Dartmouth) where he soon after formed a connection in marriage and continued to reside hear till the time of his diceace.

In the summer and autumn of 1770, in the 27th year of his age, he was visited with a long and severe illness, by which he was so far reduced, that his friends wholly dispaired of his recovery. In this season of deep probation, his mind became peacefully resigned to the will of his heavenly Father; and in his restoration to health, an increase of dedication was witnessed. He for several years discharged the duties of an Overseer, acceptably to his friends, and with usefulness to the Church, at a time

* Rochester in this State on the 22 of the fifth month 1744. his parents were Nicholas & Ruth Davis. His Father of whom a memorial is found in page 1 &c was a minister in society of friends and died at a long when on his return from a religious Visit to the Southern States in the 10th mo 1755.

when the faithful discharge of those duties was rendered peculiarly arduous, from the excitement produced in the publick mind, by the commencement of the revolutionary war, and which extended to many standing in connection with the Society. He was several times, by appointment of the Monthly Meeting, united with others, in visiting the families of Friends to endeavour to remove hurtful things from within the borders of the Society. It was while engaged in these labours of love, that he found himself called upon, occasionly, to speak to the states of those who were visited, by way of ministry. It was not long before he believed it to be his duty to bear a more public testimony to the Truth, and was made willing to yield obedience to Divine requisition. This was about the year 1782. His friends, after waiting for due proof that "a dispensation of the Gospel was committed to him," approved in 1784 the publick exercise of his gift.

Although he never travelled much abroad, yet in 1801, he performed a religious visit to the Northern parts of New-York Yearly Meeting, and in 1806 visited some of the Meetings of Friends in the States of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, and more extensively in Ohio, to the satisfaction, as appears, of Friends, and to the peace of his own mind; and till he began to feel the weight of declining years, he continued frequently and acceptably to visit the Meetings within our own Quarterly Meeting.

In his publick communications, he was sound in doctrine, clear, lively and practical. He frequently dwelt with much earnestness, upon the goodness of the Almighty to his creature man; the great and unspeakable privileges he has conferred upon him; and was fervent in his exhortations to the impenitent, the careless, the indifferent, to those who are settled in a state of ease, to leave those things that we are sensible must

separate from the enjoyment of heavenly favour, to come and participate in these blessed privileges, to take up the daily cross, to fight the good fight of faith, as the alone way to happiness here and hereafter. To those who had made some good beginning, who had set their faces Zion-ward, his language was full of encouragement to persevere to the end. To the afflicted whether in body or in mind, he was truly a Minister of consolation, and this not only in publick but he was frequent in his visits to the house of mourning, and with feelings of deep sympathy, poured in the wine and Oil of Christian comfort, pointing the mind to Him who does not willingly afflict nor grieve the children of men; to him who is a present Helper in every needful time. In supplication he was peculiarly fervent, evincing near access to the throne of grace, & that added great weight to his Ministry was his truly circumspect deportment and consistancy of life.

He possessed a sound and stable mind, with much evenness and uniformity of temper, and from his habitual cheerfulness enjoyed as much as most men, in social intercourse with his friends; but his social and cheerful feelings were accompanied with gravity, and with innocency and simplicity of manners; even manifesting an uncommon regard to the feelings of others, that nothing should escape him that had a tendency unnecessarily to hurt or wound, & was particularly guarded as to whatever might lessen or injure the character of another. Possessed of a meek and quiet spirit, Christian humility was indeed a conspicuous trait in his character, which led him to prefer others to himself. By this blameless life and conversation, and the uprightness of his dealings among men, he endeared himself to all who were intimately acquainted with him, the

the youth as well as the aged, and was generally beloved and respected, beyond the limits of the Society of which he was a member.

In his latter years he frequently made some allusion in his publick communications, to his own religious experience; but always in a way that evinced true humility of mind. A few of those expressions have been preserved, nearly in the words in which they were delivered, and it is thought may with propriety be introduced here. Adverting, on one of these occasions to "an unprepared state of mind to meet the awful seat of judgment," he remarked, "It is a very unpleasant state. I know it by living experience, and therefore am I engaged the few remaining days that may be allotted unto me heare, that I may so acquit myself in faithfullness, and in obedience unto my God, that I may feel at least the arm of divine support, which indeed never failed any that are united in the heavenly union and the marriage covenant of the Lamb, ye the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world." Referring to a childlike state of mind as necessary to receive the impressions of good, he added, "And I find in myself, the more I ~~experience~~ am willing to be taught and instructed as a little child, the more I experiance of the covering of the Holy Spirit of our God, and I think it leads me more and more to impress this hart work upon others. — Our harts and minds must be changed."

A few months previous to his decease, after having spoken impressively at some length, he arose a second time, and said, "Under present impression I think I can say, My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit rejoiceth in God my saviour. Glory be to his name, he hath done wonderful things for me. My soul doth magnify the Lord." And at another time declared himself in substance, as follows: "According to the measure of the grace of God given me, I have laboured, and am willing to labour;

for the good of souls — desiring that all may come to enjoy that which I enjoy, the peace of God; " and concluding by observing — " It is not they who run well for a season, but they who continuing in the patience of the saints, hold out to the end, that come into this enjoyment."

His ministry continued lively and edifying to the close — at the last Meeting which he attended, which was on fifth-day the 17th of the second month, he spoke with much fervency of spirit, and in the course of his communication observed, " I think I can say from a degree of experience, that in the Father's house there is bread enough and to spare," and enlarging a little on the sustaining efficacy of even a crumb from the Father's bountiful table," closed by weightily remarking, that as his days work was nearly accomplished, he felt more desirous to impress these things upon which he had dwelt in his communications, home to our feelings, and particularly the importance of a never, never ending eternity.'

The succeeding day he was taken unwell. The symptoms of his disorder which proved to be the lung fever, were not such at first, as to excite apprehension as to the issue; but it gradually assumed a more unfavourable aspect, and after a confinement of a week, terminated with the close of life. During its continuance, he was remarkably composed, patient, and resigned, quietly waiting the event. He expressed to one of his Friends, in humble confidence, that all was well with him, and after making some further remarks, added, "'tis this, that makes a death bed easy." He departed this life, early on the morning of the 25th of the second month 1825; and there can be no doubt that he has entered into peace and gone to unite with the spirit of just men made perfect. He was aged 60 years and 9 months; a Minister about 43 years.

43 years

Signed on behalf and by directions of our Monthly Meeting of Friends held at New Bedford 23d of 3d Month 1826

Obrm Shearman Jun
Mary Taber

To Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, held at New Bedford,
6th of 4th mo. 1826.

A Testimony of New Bedford Monthly Meeting, respecting our worthy Friend, James Davis, deceased, was read in this Meeting, and much unity being expressed therewith, the Clerk is directed to sign the same on our behalf.

From the minutes of said Meeting,

Copy, as revised by the Meeting for Sufferings

Abm Sherman, Jun: Clk

Memorial of Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends concerning Micajah Collins, who departed this life the 30th of 1st mo. 1827 in the 63d year of his age.

This our beloved friend was the son of Enoch and Rebecca Collins, and was born at Lynn Mass. on the 19th of 4th mo. 1764. His Father dying when he was very young, his early education devolved on his tender and affectionate mother, of whom he often spoke in terms of filial regard, and to whose pious instructions he attributed great watchfulness in counteracting the evil propensities of his youth, as we find by a manuscript journal relating to his early life. During the years of his minority he had strong inclinations to licentiousness and in which he indulged to a degree beyond most of his associates although the compunctions of a guilty conscience often arrested him in his wild career.

These convictions, frequently caused him to weep in secret which induced him to form resolutions for an amendment of life; but mixing again with vain companions, all his resolutions passed away like the morning cloud!

From what we have known of his early history,

we are led to beleive that notwithstanding his many deviations from the path of rectitude, he was remarkably favoured with divine visitations even when very young. The simplicity of the cross of Christ appears to have been his greatest trial from which his ~~natural~~ vivacity shrunk with an awful dread: thus he continued to stifle conviction until about the 22d year of his age, whereby the season of youth was wasted in unprofitable pursuits.— About this time he went to reside in the family of Daniel Newhall, a worthy and exemplary elder in our Society; from whose tender counsel and uniform deportment he received great encouragement to live more conformable to the Divine will.

As he listened to the Heavenly monitor his mind became more and more strengthened in the way that leads to eternal life: wherein he saw the necessity of supporting our ancient testimonies with respect to plainness of dress, and in the use of the scripture language before all people. Thus, as obedience kept pace with knowledge he was enabled to walk in the path of self denial wherein he was fitted and prepared to proclaim the glad tidings of the gospel of peace; unto which service he was called about the 27th year of his age.

His appearance in the ministry being satisfactory to friends he was encouaged to give diligent heed to the gift he had received; but like many others in the same holy calling, he experienced seasons of deep depression wherein his faith was closely tried, and his public labours for a considerable time suspended, under which proving dispensation he was brought to the very brink of despair; yet the waves of affliction were mercifully stayed by the almighty power which said "thus far shalt thou go and no farther." From this time, his ardent zeal

in his Heavenly Fathers service manifested itself in various ways for the promotion of the glorious cause; The general purity of his manners- his affable and kind disposition, and the open sincerity of his hart; served to render his labours the more eminently useful, and conciliated the esteem of his friends and acquaintance.

In his public testimonies he was generally clear and pertinent, and his manner was interesting, accompined with an evidence of a divine authority; he was sound in the Scripture doctrines, of the means of Salvation by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity; which doctrines he often enforced and illustrated in his public communications.

He was for many years the Teacher of Lynn Preparative Meeting School, in which capacity he was very serviceable, and took great delight to instruct the tender mine in the ways of Religion and virtue; the sweet remembrance of whose pious care is still fresh in many of our minds.

His labours in the ministry have been extensive; he having made several religious visits to Friends and others, in the ~~Eastern~~, Eastern, Middle, Southern and Western States; where he was cordially received, as is amply testified by numerous extracts from the records of those Meetings. His last journey to the Middle and Western States was in the year 1824-5. and the recollection of the full expression of unity and simpathy with him in his prospect on that occasion, recalls the circumstances under which we parted with peculiar sensibility:- the feeble state of his health scarcely warranting a reasonable expectation that we should meet again in time, added to the sufferings which we, at that period had to bear, rendered that separation particularly trying. From which journey he was permitted to return with satisfactory testimonials, from the various places where his Gospel labours had been extended; of which religious visit, and the kindness of Friends and others in those places, he has

often spoken with grateful remembrance. As he advanced in years, he appeared also to advance in the knowledge of the Truth, and his public testimonies became more frequent and more enlarged, wherein he often spoke to the admiration of his familiar friends.

His heart was often pained in witnessing the many deviations from the ancient simplicity of our profession; in which exercise he was frequently drawn to bear testimony against the spirit of false liberty, which was, under the cloak of toleration, endeavouring to lay waste the doctrine of the Cross of Christ. His tender care for the welfare of society seemed to increase with the number of his days, and at the last monthly meeting he ever attended, he made a very pathetic appeal to those present, upon these important subjects.

His mind had appeared for a considerable time becoming more and more detached from the things of this world, anticipating the period of his final change with a steady composure, as we find by reference to his writings. On the 15th of the 11th mo. he wrote as follows "all things temporal are drawing to a close! this morning solemnity prevades the mind, with thankfullness that I have so little to do with this world." And again on the 1st of 1st mo. 1827 — "Time roll away from year to year with great rapidity! O for faith, strength and patience, to keep pace with its incessant motion — and to prepare by the faithful discharge of each days service, for that eventful period when final leave must be taken of all terrestrial enjoyments to appear before the righteous judge of quick and dead, when all shall be rewarded according to their Works."

His late testimonies in our meetings for discipline have been marked with an increasing solemnity, accompanied with an ardent solicitude, that the youth of our society may be strengthened to come forward as standard bearers; that there may be a living remnant preserved to the honour

and glory of the Heavenly Father, who called our pious ancestor from the pollution of the world, to serve him with a perfect heart." His last journey was to attend our Quarterly Meeting in the first Month at Seabrook; during which he was considerably exposed to the severe cold weather at that time: and on his return he was evidently indisposed; yet he attended our meeting at Lynn on first day, wherein he spoke with much solemnity on the subject of the close of time.

On third day following he was taken ill of a feaver and medical aid was called; and when his friends came to inquire about his health, he received them with his usual cheerfullness, observing "that he found himself quite indisposed but could not yet discover what the event would be." As his disorder assumed a more dicouraging aspect, his mind was in no way disquieted, but manifested a tranquility unusual in sickness: he expressed his gratitude to his friends for all their kindness to him; the reccollection of which was very precious to his feelings," observing that the kindness of his friends was a sweet cordial to his mind." As his illness increased his mind became impressed with the belief that his end was near, although he observed "it may not be now." I dont know. I may be raised again and be among my friends, but it is not likely from my present feelings that I shall;" and not long afterwards he said. "I feel a remarkable sweetnes that is indiscribable, it is that Love that embraces the universe — yet I have nothing to boast of: I feel myself a poor creature a meer worm of the dust." It seldom falls to the lot of humanity to experience so little suffering in the event that terminates this mortal existance as this our beloved friend was favoured with; a sense of the dissolution of his earthly tabernacle, seemed lost in the foretaste

of Heavenly enjoyment. Through the course of the day preceding his decease, several friends called to see him in their turns he spake with an audible and clear voice, on the great and important truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ until their hearts were melted into tenderness: some of his expressions on this occasion have been preserved, which were to the following import. "I beseech you to Gods eternal principle, Christ Jesus in the soul; for I have an interest with his people to be light, life and salvation to them that keep in it; in this I feel the peace of God to my own soul beyond what I can discribe to you, or dared to look for. He deals in mercy with me, and stands himself at this time, between me and those deep waters that have so often come in upon my soul as a flood: that whatever is yet to be. I feel nothing now to stand in my way,— not speck— no mote or shadow of a cloud— blessed be the name of my God:— At another time he said "I have seen with unutterable clearness the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, which I always believed in, and in my testimonies especially of late have been called to bear witness to:— Say ye to the righteous that it shall be well with him, for they shall eat the fruits of their doings; Woe unto the wicked it shall be ill with him, for the reward of his hands shall be given him: "but I have now seen this beyond what I am able to discribe;" You know my friends, many of you know, that I have suffered much— wave on wave have sometimes seemed as if I should be overwhelmed; but there has been an Eternal arm

underneath that has borne me up, and now I grudge not all I have suffered - such love - such sweetness, that it fills my soul with humble gratitude;

Not long afterwards his voice became more elevated (although apparantly sinking under the weight of his disorder) when he frequently exhorted all to keep near to Gods eternal covenant of light in the soul, and one unto another; saying if we are one, we are one in the Lord; One sheapherd & one fold; After a few moments pause he again observed, "I have always believed, that if I yielded all the faculties of my soul to the Heavenly Fathers guidance, I should be enabled to testify to the power of his truth, not that I speak of any confidence in myself; I feel entirely dependant on that arm of mercy, that has been with me from my youth."

To a friend who visited him he spoke on the subject of the ministry to the folowing effect - "The pure spring of the ministry does not depend on the creaturly feelings, it is quite another thing - I have often stood up in our meetings with but a word or sentence and knew not what was to come next: but the Lord was mouth and wisdom, tongue and utterance - without the immediate influence of whose pure spirit all our preaching is in vain;- And so it has been in our meeting for dicipline and by keeping to this pure spring of life, words have been given that sometimes have flowed in a remarkable manner.- It is by keeping near to this divine fountain that strength is afforded, and if it is only a few words - stop when the spring closes;

in the evening preceding his close, many friends and neighbours seemed desirous to see him, as they apprehended it

would

would be the last opportunity, which circumstance being named to him, he observed "it is very kind in them and it is very pleasant to me," and he requested that all who had come to see him, might take him by the hand; to many of whom he had something to say after which he bade them individually an effectionate farewell. His language was solemn and impressive on this occasion, during which he frequently spoke of the great sweetness he felt, and of the Love that filled his soul: Observing that he had for nearly forty years, to set the fear of God before his eyes; and he could now leave it among his last testimonies, "that it is a fountain of life, preserving from the snares of Death."

He said he saw no cause to deviate from our ancient testimonies, that the doctrine of the everlasting gospel is the same, yesterday to day and forever: that we must all pass over one threshold into the one door, for Jesus Christ is "the way, the Truth and the Life, as he is the only door." Thus he continued untill a late hour when the company retired, much broken and melted with the solemn scene; after which he seemed a little wandering for some time, but towards morning his rational faculties resumed their functions, and he spoke of his full assurance in the mercy of God through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and exhorted those around him to faithfulness in their day and generation to keep near to the Eternal covenant and principle of light and life in the soul; and continued to speak (with short intermissions) untill nature became exhausted, when he quietly departed, without a sigh or a groan. — Mark

"Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright,
for the end of that man is peace."

His remains were interred from our Meeting-House in Lynn on the third of second month, attended by a numerous concourse of Friends & others, whose grave deportment evinced their regard of his worthy memory: On which occasion several solemn testimonies were delivered, to the comfort and consolation of the mourners in Zion.

Given forth at Salem monthly meeting held at Lynn 10th of 3rd Mo. 1824. and signed in behalf thereof by

Daniel Johnson } Clerks
Ruth Basset. }

A testimony or memorial from Dover monthly meeting, concerning our deceast friend Mark Osborn.

He was born at Danvers in the county of Essex and state of Massachusetts, of parents not in religious profession with friends, About the thirtieth year of his age he settled at Dover New hampshire and soon became more zealously engaged to seek after pure and undefiled religion; and being convinced of the principles of Truth as professed by friends, he gave up in earnest to lead a virtuous and religious life. In the year 1781 he became a member of the society; soon after which he married, and continued a regular and constant attender of meetings, untill within a few days

of his decease. In which he was a good example in silent retirement, and we believe was often enabled to direct many to the true fountain from whence all good cometh; and by faithfully adhering to the light of Christ in his own heart, he became fitted for and usefully occupied the station of an elder in the church for nearly forty years: and was enabled to watch over the members of the meeting to which he belonged for their good. He was concerned to support the discipline in the authority of truth, and to encourage the humble travelers in the way of their duty, being himself an example of true Christian humility. His regular and exemplary walking among men not only secured him the love and good will of his friends in profession with himself, but was particularly noticed by others, many of whom were in the higher walks of life; by whom he was esteemed for his moral and social virtues, which did not in the least exalt him

By his industry and strict economy he accumulated a comfortable estate, and was content to live within his income. His heart and house were open to receive his friends, and in an especial manner to those who were labourers in the cause of truth.

He was tenderly disposed to do good to all as far as his abilities extended; often expressing in his latter years, his love for friends and satisfaction in their company.

He was firm in the faith of the Christian

religion and in the one offering, made by our blessed Saviour
for the salvation of men, and his belief was unshaken not only
in his divine and spiritual appearance in the heart of men
but in that outward sacrifice which he made for
the sins of the world, as is recorded in the scriptures of truth,
and was grieved to hear that any in religious profession
with him were endeavouring to lay waste that precious
testimony.

In his sickness which was short, he had
an apprehension that it would be his last and exprest
himself to that purport; and that he had no desire or
will of his own respecting the event, but left all to
centre in the divine Will, several times signifying
the same to those attendant on him, and so passed
away in quiet resignation, and was gathered as a
shock of corn fully ripe, on the 18th of the 10th mo.
1826, in the 75th year of his age.

His beloved Wife Marcy, also an esteemed
elder, who had for many years been in a very poor state
of health, quietly and peaceably closed a well spent
life within five days after her beloved husband
in the 67th year of her age, retaining her reason
perfectly to the last, and being asked just before
her close whether death had any terror to her, she
distinctly replied, no none at all,
They were lovely and pleasant in their lives, in
in death they were not divided.

Signed by direction & on behalf of Dover Monthly meeting held 10th mo. 17th, 1827.

Joseph Tuttle } Clerks.
Hannah Osborn }

A Testimony or memorial from Dover Monthly meeting concerning our deceast Friend Marble Osborn, was read and approved in this meeting, the women uniteing therewith; and the Clerk is directed to forward the same to the meeting for Sufferings together with a copy of this minute
Extracted from the minutes of Dover Quarterly meeting held the 25th of 10th mo 1827.

By John Brown Clerk.

A Testimony and Memorial of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting concerning our Friend David Buffum Dec.

Our Minds being deeply impressed with the loss the Church hath sustained, by the removal from "works to rewards," of our antient and beloved friend, David Buffum we feel engaged to manifest our sense thereof, by furnishing the following concerning him,

He was born in Smithfield in the year 1743 and was the son of Joseph and Margaret Buffum, both respectable members of our religious Society. For the last 38 years of his life, he was a valuable member of Rhode Island Monthly Meeting.

He possessed a sound discriminating mind. Benevolence sympathy, and genuine hospitality were distinguished traits in his character, On the subject of these, and other valuable endowments, much might with truth be said, but our

A Testimony of R Island Mo
Meeting Concerning our Beloved Friend
David Buffum Lett.

Rhode Island Quarterly
Meeting

For the Meeting for Sufferings —

Passed by that Meeting Meeting for Sufferings and
to be laid before Yearly Meeting — 1830 —

The

A testimony presented by Rhode Island Monthly Meeting concerning our late beloved aged friend David Buffum was read in this Meeting—and much unity being felt and expressed with it—we refer the same to the Meeting for Sufferings

Extracted from the minutes of Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting held 6th of 8th Mo. 1830.

To the Meeting for Sufferings. William Jenkins Clerk

Quarterly Meetings
Acct of the Testimony
concerning D Buffum
1830 —

To the Meeting for Suffering &c

object is not to eulogise departed worth but rather to magnify the great and excellent name of him, who "giveth gifts unto men" can inclose their hearts to consecrate them to his service. By the operation of this power and by his power the mind of our departed friend became early convinced of the reality of true religion; and the necessity of yielding to the conviction of the spirit of truth in the heart. He being naturally of a disposition averse to the Cross, it was not an easy thing for his strong mind to bow to the simplicity of the Gospel, yet being visited & re-visited with the influence of Divine grace, and the inshinings of that light which "maketh manifest," he was enabled clearly to see that the way of the Cross, was the only way to the crown:- this after much self-abasement and conflict, he was strengthened to make the sacrifice required & to "offer an offering in righteousness," On the subject of his internal exercises, he did not often converse; yet there were seasons wherein he very feelingly & instructively adverted to those solemn days of preparation": in one of those he hath left the following testimony to the importance of a strict attention to manifested duty, (even in things considered by too many, as of minor importance) viz:- "That if in "the day of small things" he had not yielded to the comparatively minute sacrifices, demanded of him as tests of his obedience, he never could have known an advancement in a religious course"- After this surrender of his will, to the Divine will, a gift in the ministry was committed to him; this, he frequently exercised to the comfort and edification of his hearers; and many of us can feelingly bear witness, to the humility of spirit- the earnestness and solemnity which marked his communications, when expostulating with his fellow-pilgrims on the necessity of unreserved obedience to the requirings of Truth, as manifested in the secret of the Soul: On this subject, (a subject so forcibly and frequently inculcated in the Holy Scriptures) he was often evidently exercised, and appeared deeply to feel the solemn import of the memorable charge given by Mary, the mother of Jesus to the servants of the marriage in Cana of Galilee, viz:-

"Whatsoever he saith unto you do it." The due observance of this command — together with that of often requiring to, and even keeping on the Watch-tower, were points, whereunto with much weight and energy he frequently endeavoured to direct the attention of the human family: through the efficacy of this watchfulness, he was favoured to keep in proper subjection, a mind naturally inclined to philosophical researches; and a disposition uncommonly cheerful.

He maintained with great firmness and religious prosperity, the testimonies of Truth with respect to War and Slavery; the former, by partially suffering distraint of property; and the latter, by faithfully labouring, in conjunction with other exercised Friends for the freedom of Slaves that were held by members of our religious Society: nor were these exertions abated, untill all that were retained in bondage within this Yearly Meeting were set at Liberty.

His field of labour, in the line of the Ministry, was not very extensive; his services therein being chiefly within the compass of his own Yearly Meeting altho' he occasionly visited those of Philadelphia and New York: yet notwithstanding he was circumscribed in this respect his mind was often clothed with desires, that Friends every where, might live up to their profession. The introduction of unsound principles into our once united Society occasioned him much painful exercise. In an interesting conversation with an intimate friend of his had with him of latter times, on subjects relative to the Christian Faith, he emphatically, and with great reverance declared his full belief in the plain Scripture account of the birth, life, miracles, death, resurection and assention of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and that He is now our mediator with the Father; and also expressed his full assurance of the Divine authority of the Holy Scriptures.

The situation of New York Yearly Meeting in the year 1827. was such as greatly affected his feeling mind; and notwithstanding his advanced age, and the infirmities of a "very afflicted tabernacle," he ~~deemed it~~, believed it right for him to attend it; he accordingly applied for, and obtained a minute for that purpose: and tho' such was the state of things therein at the time, as to prevent him from fully ~~relieving~~ relieving his mind, yet we have authority for stating, that it was nevertheless a satisfaction to him to be present, and to sympathise with those of his Brethren and Sisters, who had to bear the "burden and heat of that trying day."

In our Yearly, Quarterly and subordinate meeting he maintained his post with great propriety and dignity, even to advanced age, and of late years, frequently under the pressure of much bodily suffering and debility, occasioned by almost continual disease; yet his mental faculties were preserved, vigourous and active, he retained to the last, a lively concern that every avenue might be carefully guarded to prevent the intrusion of evil; not only in an individual, but in a society point of view.

He was a useful member of the Meeting for sufferings from the time of its organization in the year 1775 until his death; with the exception of one year, when he was released at his own request.

The winter preceding his death, his health was so much impaired, and his strength so reduced, as to confine him almost wholly to the house. In religious opportunity which occured in the family a few weeks before his departure our dear friend remarked — "that he thought he should feel most easy to expose (for the satisfaction of his friends) that he believed his day's work was done; and that he did not see any thing to stand in his way, tho' he was aware that he had not been so faithful in all things as would have been best; having often been sensible of many very many short comings; yet he believed these were in mercy passed by; adding

that

that he was now waiting his final change, believing that he should go in Peace, let it be sooner or later, tho' he thought he had not long to stay" to which appre=
=hention, he expressed his entire resignation.

He departed this life the 20th of the 5th month 1829 and on the 22d his remains were taken to the meeting House in Newport, and after a solid meeting held on the occasion, were interred in the Burying ground thereto belonging.

By direction and on behalf of Rhode Island Monthly meeting, held at Portsmouth the 30th of 4th mo 1830.

David Rodman Clark.
Ruth Rodman Clark.

A testimony of S. Hingston monthly meeting concerning our beloved friend Dorcas Peckham.

Dorcas Peckham daughter of Paul and Rachel Gardner was born at Nantucket Mass. 8th of 6mo. 1767, of religious parents. Being early instructed in the way of self-denial her mind became impressed with the necessity of dedication of heart to her dear Lord and Master and to render him the first fruits of the increase which was a meek and humble spirit.

But He who condescended thus to visit her and make known from time to time the manifestations of his holy will, saw meet to try her with various and severe conflicts for the further refinement of her mind. Apprehending that if she was faithful to the pointings of truth it would be her lot to speak to others of the marvellous loving kindness and tender dealings of the Most High to her soul and being of a diffident disposition her natural feelings shrank from such an undertaking. But he who brought Israel through Jordan was not unmindful of her tried State and enabled her to bow in resignation to his blessed requirings. She appeared in the ministry about the 31st year of her age, to the satisfaction of

friends and in own peace, after she was recommended in 1801, she visited many meetings in New-England, likewise New York, Virginia, North Carolina and Tenessee and more than once was engaged in visiting families among the friends of her native island.

She married about the 49th year of her age, "to" Peckham, a member of South Kingston monthly meeting, and removed to his residence, where she became a valuable and useful member, being diligent in the attendance of meetings & a faithful labourer for the promotion of good amongst us. Being engaged in gospel love, she visited the families of this and Greenwich mo. meetings, to the satisfaction and comfort of the mourners in Zion.

Her health gradually declined for several year previous to her dissolution in which time being often deprived of the privilege of attending meetings, she expressed to those about her, that the reflection was indeed pleasant, "that I have always attended meetings when my health would admit; and now I am prevented from assembling with my friends, the remembrance is precious to my feelings; for be assured if we grow neglectful in the duty of attendance of midweek meetings & thereby discipline lukewarmness and weakness will ensue." Many times after recovering from those trying ills of mind, to which she was subject, she would say "I know not why I am continued in mutability, my sufferings are so great," & pausing would further remark "I believe it is to answer some good end, and if rightly improved may refine the dross, tin & reprobate silver that remain & finally, prepare me for that heavenly kingdom into which nothing that is impure can ever enter; but this will be by the pure mercies, and merits of my Redeemer, not for any thing I have done"

On the evening of the 13th of the 4mo. 1831 reviving from a period of great suffering, she gave direction concerning some matter that had been on her mind, observing that it would make no difference about her stay in this world but that she was now easy; and then expressed herself to those around her on this wise, "my dear children

you have always felt very near to me— we have spent many pleasant hours together, but none ever seemed more so than the present. I have believed the affection I had for your dear father was transfered to you & I have not at any time since his decease felt as though I could leave you and return to the place of my nativity, but though all could adopt the language of Ruth to Naomi "Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God, and my desire for you my children is, that you may be found faithful to manifested duty. Let obedience keep pace with knowledge. Although discouragements may prevail, though it is indeed a sifting time to many and their faith tried to an hairs breadth, on account of their weakness and the many deviations & devastations in our highly favoured society, yet as these faithful ones keep their ranks in righteousness, I believe and am more and more confirmed in the belief, that their afflictions will work for them a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory— a treasure in the heavens that fadeth not away. "Zion will yet arise and shake herself from the dust of the earth and put on her beautiful garments and become a praise in the earth."

Her disposition was sharpened and instructive, it being refined by the operation of the ever blessed truth. She was an example of humility, piety and patience, & often craved the latter might be her portion to the end; which seemed mercifully granted. Nearly her last expressions were— "Although I have nothing to boast of, I continue to trust in the mercies and merits of my redeemer, and feel nothing in my way and trust I shall go to join those who have gone before me, whose garments have been washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb, in that assembly and Church of the first born, whose names are written in heaven."

She was seized the following morning with a paralytic fit, which deprived her of the use of one side, & almost of articulation. On the 15th She had another shock which she survived until the following evening, when She quietly passed away, like one falling into a sweet sleep, without a sigh or struggle, or even the least change of countenance.

Her remains were interred on the 17th after a Solemn meeting

of friends and others on the occasion. Thus closed the life of one of the mothers in Israel, who through the adorable goodness and tender mercies of Jesus Christ, that was made a propitiatory sacrifice, yielded up his most precious life on the cross for the expressed purpose, that we through him might become heirs of eternal salvation, had been favoured in a good degree to resign her all to his disposal, and by so doing, was enabled to fight the good fight and in measure to keep the faith. Henceforth we have a comfortable hope that her purified spirit, was permitted to enter those blessed mansions, into which nothing that is impure can ever come.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Sd Kingston Mo. Meeting, held at Western 23rd of 4th mo. 1832

by Timothy C. Collins clerk
Elizabeth Peckham Clerk for
(the day

The following testimony of Oliver Winslow concerning his deceased wife was read and approved in this and the womens' meetings.

From the minutes of China Monthly Meeting held 15th of 5mo. 1832.

Stephen Jones Jr.
Eliza S. Bracketts } clerks.

China Monthly meeting forwarded to this meeting Oliver Winslows Memorial concerning his wife Sarah (deceased) with which this and the womens' meetings unite.

By direction and on behalf of Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting of Friends held 5mo. 24th. 1832. Daniel Taber Clerk

The testimony of Oliver Winslow of China monthly meeting concerning his wife Sarah who departed this life the 6th of 5mo. 1832. in the 80 year of her age.

Through faithfulness to the discoveries of Divine Grace she was enabled to live a careful inoffensive life, being, meaderately clothed with a meek and quiet spirit, she manifested a steady concern for the promotion of the cause of truth and righteousness, being diligent in the attendance of our religious meetings and exemplary in a sober quiet waiting therein. When by age and infirmities she was prevented from the attendance of them, she manifested that her zeal and concern

were not abated, often encouraged others to that important duty, and manifested that her love to her friends and the cause of truth continued, greatly desiring its prosperity. She was an affectionate wife, a tender mother, a kind neighbour, openhearted to those who stood in need of relief, very desirous that love and unity might be maintained in families, in neighbourhood, and in the Church; a good example herein herself, often expressing — we ought to love our neighbour as ourselves — was willing to do by others as she wished to be done by.

The last two years of her life she was mostly confined at home, through bodily weakness; during which time she was favoured with patience and resignation, with which her innocent and meek deportment ministered instruction, and her memory is precious. She continued to be a firm believer in the divinity, example and precepts of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, was an elder in the Church and may truly be said to have been a mother in Israel. Toward the close of life her mind appeared to be more gathered into the heavenly enclosure, desiring to quit this earthly tabernacle, but patient and willing to wait the Lord's time, expressing "it is the best". She appeared sensible her end was near, and when the time came, she departed in much quietness and stillness, being at peace with all and no doubt is entered in the mansions of eternal blessedness.

A Testimony of Falmouth Monthly meeting concerning Edward Cobb late of Portland, Me.

We deeply feel that in this instance of mortality our Society is deprived of an exemplary and useful member of one who felt a lively interest in the advancement of the cause of righteousness, and a deep rooted love for that Spiritual worship which the Lord requires of all his devoted followers.

But though called hence to be seen of men no more his example and his precepts still live in the hearts of his friends, a bright memorial of the blessed effect of yielding obedience to the inward teaching and purifying power of the Spirit of our Dear Redeemer, who only is able to build us up in the most holy faith, and to

make our hearts a fit temple for himself to dwell in.*

"I was born 4th of 5mo. 1775 of parents professing with the congregationalists in the town of Falmouth, and was the eldest of 5 children, all sons. My father died when I was about 9 years old and my mother when about 16. When not having many near relations, we were put at various places. In the course of my growing up, I often had serious considerations and at times desires raised in me, to know what was the good and acceptable and perfect will of God concerning me. But while I wished so to conduct myself as to give no offence to any, I often gratified my propensities to levity. One of my favourate amusements was dancing, which I often indulged in as I grew to man's estate and for which I often felt reproof and (toward the close of my practising this amusement) so severely that after ~~[illegible]~~ indulging in it perhaps half the night, would be afraid of taking my rest the remainder, untill wearied out would fall asleep, and, O how would I engage at such seasons never to give way again. But often finding my own strength, in which these engagements were in some measure made, to fail, I could hardly look with any degree of confidence to him, whose power alone could enable me to withstand the temptations untill I saw nothing would do for me but yielding all up to him who had been thus striving with me for good, and affording power and ability to choose the good & refuse the evil. I had serious, religious considerations (as I observed) from early life or more particularly after my mother's death, and kept closely and conscientiously to meetings: and sometimes my desires became intensly kindled after that which would satisfy the hungry and thirsty soul, and sometimes to that degree that I could hardly keep about my work and would leave it and seek solitary places, where no human eye could see or ear hear, to pour out my distresses to him, who sees in secret, craving of him that he would direct my course aright before him, and show me who were his people who worshiped him aright; and sometimes I would return to my work relieved from my burthen. I would often

* The following Art. which he gave of himself was found among his papers and refers to the State of his mind previous to his becoming a member of the Society of Friends

go morning to meeting, and think that like a door on it's hinges I came as I went: and most earnestly did I desire, that if there was any thing unsound in the worship I attended, that my mind might be anointed to see it.

"I did not at this time confine my attention to the religious sect with which I was educated, but occasionally met with others. When quite young I learned the rules and was very fond of what is called "Sacred Music", sparing no pains to attend school for that purpose; and the prayer of my heart to be directed aright regarding worship seemed to receive the first intelligible answer by way of reproof in this exercise. And when at the head of a choir of singers, words have occurred which through the enlightening influence of Heavenly Goodness, which has long been operating upon my mind, appeared evidently inconsistent with my own State, I have often, to be unobserved by the company, kept the tune along, while I feared that taking the words into my mouth and uttering them as worship to him, who requires worship of his creatures, man, in Spirit and in truth, could be nothing short of solemn mockery from that mind which had been so far enlightened as to believe that nothing could be acceptable worship to Almight God but what came from him, and through the medium of his own Spirit was breathed out to him again as that Spirit should dictate whether in prayer or praise to his great name"

"By continuing to live in accordance with these views of worship, and seeking instruction from his from his heavenly guide, he became established in the fundimental principles of the Society of friends, some time before he knew what doctrines they professed, particularly in the inconsistency of war & the taking the life of our fellow beings in any way, and came to the conclusion to suffer bonds and imprisonment even if it should be for life rather than carry his gun into the field as he before had done. — His natural disposition led him into much lively company, and his proficiency in dancing and music, caused his so-

city to be much sought by the gay and fashionable. But he now felt that the spirit of Truth required him to take up the daily cross of Christ, and to withdraw from the vain company, customs and fashions of the world: and being faithful he was supported under his various trials, and enabled to bear the scoffs of his former associates. Some of whom thought him insane, others called him a fool: thus verifying the truth of the saying "The wisdom of God is foolishness to the worldly wise"

But some were so awed by his serious deportment that after calling on him to invite him to join gay circles, they left him without asking his attendance saying "he is too religious he will not go" After seeking among various denominations for a Spiritual minded people, without feeling a full unity with any his mind was turned much in the cross of his own will, towards the Society of Friends. The first 3 of our meetings which he attended were held in silence & in them his mind was so overshadowed by divine Goodness that he could do no less than inwardly exclaim this is what my soul wanted, and without hearing any vocal preaching, he became fully convinced of the correctness of our principles and was received a member of our Society 21st of 6mo. 1797.

From this time he was a diligent attender of our meetings and manifested a living desire that we might as a people live up to our high and holy profession. And after some time as he abode under the forming hand of Divine Goodness, which only can rightly prepare and to publish the glad tidings of the Gospel of Christ, he believed it to be his duty to engage in that great work, and in it he was an example of watchfulness, being very careful not to utter words in his own wisdom, which rendered his communications, though generally small, acceptable and edifying.

He several times traveled with the unity of his friends under a religious concern for the promotion of truth within the limits of our own Yearly Meeting and once in several others, and on his return, produced certificates from the meetings he attended, expressing their unity with his company and

labours.

He greatly desired that the youth in our Society might be trained up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, that the Scriptures of truth might be frequently read, and that we might keep to our primative simplicity, & was careful to be exemplary in these important testimonies in his own family.

About 10 months before his death, he took a heavy cold, which appeared to settle on his lungs, and soon affected him that he became impressed with a belief that his dissolution was near. He was confined to his house several months and to his bed about 6 weeks, and though he suffered much bodily distress, he was favoured with patience, resignation and great calmness of mind, saying "I feel no controversy with the divine will, I can do nothing of myself, my dependence is on him in whom I have trusted, and if I can be admitted into his kingdom it is all I ask"

At one time being very ill, and his family and some others sitting in silence in his room he repeated the following lines with much energy and feeling —

"O where is peace, for thou her paths hast trode?
In poverty, retirement and with God.
Jesus can make a dying bed
As soft as downy pillows are
While on his breast I lean my head
And breath my life out sweetly there."

The morning of his exit he requested his family to assemble around his bed and administered solemn counsel to them individually, thus preparing their minds for the change which he seemed fully aware was near, and which through the mercy of his dear Redeemer, he seemed fully prepared to meet.

He requested his family to give him up, thrice repeating the words "Dont hold me"; and being answered we do not wish to hold thee, but can freely give thee up, into the arms of thy Saviour, who, we believe is ready to receive thee, he said "I trust he is" and added "Come welcome death, the end of fears, thy terrors are all gone. Although I walk through the valley of the shadow of death

I fear no evil for thow art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me," and in a few moments after in a solemn composure indicative of his happy close, he quietly departed this life on the 3rd of 11mo. 1832 aged 57 years.

Read and approved by Falmouth Monthly meeting of men and women friends held 2mo. 27th 1834.

John Hinshaw
Maria H. Jones } Clerks

Read and approved by Falmouth Quarterly Meeting held at Falmouth 6mo. 5th. 1834 of men and women friends and directed to be forwarded to the meeting for Sufferings.

Josiah Marston 1st. Clerk
Mary Brackett Jun. Clerk

A Testimony from the Monthly Meeting of Sidney Concerning Our friend Obed Paddock deaced.

Our beloved friend Obed Paddock was born on the Island of Nantucket State of Massachusetts the 6th of Eleventh Month 1762. His parents Jonathan and Keziah Paddock were members of our religious Society and in good esteem manifested by precept and example much Solicitude for their Childrens advancement in the Truth, which probably contributed in some degre to form that religious in the subject of this Memoir which was so conspicious in him in after life. He continued under the watchful care of his parents until he was of age sufficient to go on board a vessel employd in the whale fishery. He appeared to be early made acquainted with the way of Truth and Righteousness and as he yielded to the painings thereof in his own mind he experienced its blessed and peaceful fruits being preserved from falling into many of the snares and temptations which are peculiarly incident to his way of Life. And according to Accounts received; here as the same man abroad as at home; a plain honest, upright friend being made willing threw the love of the truth and its sanctifying operations upon his heart to bear a faithful Testimony thereto among those with whom it fell to his lot to have Intercourse. When at home he was not Negligent of his religious duties, but careful

Careful, in the Attendance of Meeting. As the infirmities of age began to gather around him the fatigues and toils of a seafaring life grew burdensome and he had an increasing desire to be more at home and retired with his little family consisting of an endeared wife of a delicate and slender constitution and one son. Accordingly in pursuance of his prospect of removal into the country he acquainted his friends therewith and having settled his outward affairs to good satisfaction, the Monthly Meeting of Nantucket furnished him and family with full and satisfactory Certificates of removal: and they in the year 1800 came into the town of Fairfield and state of Maine where he purchased a Farm on which he continued to labour until Sickness prevented, and confined him intirely to his house.

After he became Settled in this place and being engaged in heart, for the promotion of the cause of Truth and Righteousness among Men; he in time came to take an active part in the concerns of Society and for the building up and strengthening his brethren in the most holy faith and his friends believing that through the Baptizing power of the Holy Ghost, he was made able to set as a watchman in Zion, appointed him to the station of an Elder; which station he continued acceptably to fill for the remainder of his life. "Being as we most assuredly believe, a "father in Israel:" and often instrumental, in the Lords' hand, in administering a word of consolation and encouragement to "the mourners in Zion and the heavy heavy hearted in Jerusalem. Many of us who have had the privilege of sitting down in his company, can well remember those seasons of divine favour wherein our souls have been refreshed and greatly comforted by the wholesome and savory counsel and advice that was wont to flow from his lips. When it became his painful duty, to admonish the unfaithfull, and disobedient. he was peculiarly careful to seek after the proper authority: being well assured according to the prophets testimony that "the Lord alone was a spirit of Judgement to those who sit in Judgement and strength to those that turn the battle to the gate." And when any differences arose in society he was unwearied in his endeavours to end them; and if possible to effect a reconciliation in the minds of those that did not see eye to eye.

After he was confined to the house he would send for such to come and sit down by his side, in order that they might be instructed to labour after that peaceable and quiet spirit that would

and all differences. Being a great lover of peace, he used all his endeavours to promote it in the neighbourhood where he dwelt, so that his loss is sensibly felt by many out of our society. And being for a long time quite out of health he knew how to feel for those that were under similar suffering, and as he could not go to their relief, he did not always feel himself clear until he had written encouraging them to bear with Christian patience and fortitude whatever might be laid upon them.

When speaking of his past life and the manner of his getting along he was often been heard to say, and we believe with truth and sincerity that he had endeavoured never to suffer his worldly concerns to interfere with his religious duties; or even to prevent him from the attendance of his religious meetings, either on a first or a week day, when his health and that of his family would admit; however great the sacrifice to his worldly concerns might appear to be; believing as he said that he had been greatly blessed in so doing, so that after his confinement the remembrance thereof was sweet and helpful him greatly to bear up under the infirmities of body with which he was suffering.

This testimony of himself alluding no doubt to the time when he was not at sea. And as he was careful for himself in this important duty of attending meetings, so he was anxious for others also; often exorting and encouraging them to greater faithfullness and diligence therein.

Many of us will remember his sitting by his window fronting the road on meeting days, observing his friends as they passed on their way to meeting, saying that although his body was confined at home, yet his heart went along with them, and he was made to partake with them, in the blessings which the great head of the church is often pleased in condescending goodness and mercy, to grant to his humble and devoted followers.

At a certain time having a severe attack of illness, he expressed to some friends who called to see him, that he was apprehensive the close drew near, and that if it was the mind of the Lord to call him away at that time he felt nothing but a quiet acquiescence therein, having as he said an unshaken hope that when his soul left this body he would find an eternal resting place through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

And at another time on a similar occasion he expressed to a friend who called to see him that he saw no cloud in his way.

He was confined to his house for near thirteen years previous to his death, where he took great delight in the company of his friends and many of whom called to see him not only his immediate friends and acquaintances, but also friends who were traveling in the

ministry used often to call and spend a little time with him, being often favoured with the divine presence to his own tendering and comforting and to the strengthening and edifying of those whose lot it was to sit in his company. — He continued gradually to wear away untill the 6th of the 1st mo 1834. when he was violently seized with pain which almost entirely prevented his speach.

He continued to said very fast untill fifth day the ninth, when he said to the friend who was with him, if he could be relieved from the extreme pain under which he was suffering it would be a happy day for him. — He continued untill the morning of the 10th when a little past 6 O.clock he quietly departed this life in the seventy second year of his age.

And as he expressed so we believe it was a happy release to him, having as we believe done his days work in the day time.

On the 12th his remains were carried into the meeting house and after a solemn meeting were interred in friends burying ground Fairfield.

Althe' we very sensibly feel the loss of his company, yet nevertheless we can quietly acquiesce therein, believing our loss to be his eternal gain.

Mark the perfect man and behold the upright for the end of that man is peace.

Daniel Paddack
Sarah Purinton } Clerks.

By direction of Vassalboro Quarterly meeting of Friends held 5th mo 28th 1835.

Daniel Tabor
Lydia Pope } Clks.

A Testimony of South Kingstown Monthly Meeting
respecting Abel Collins deceased.

He was the son of Amos & Thankfull Collins of North Stonington in the State of Connecticut, who were members of our religious society, and was born in that place, where he also resided, on the 2d of the 5th mo 1770.-

The restraining care of his parents over his youthfull mind with the blessing of Providential love, was greatly conducive to that purity of heart which he afterwards attained. From youth he was possesed of a mild and quiet disposition and an open, forgiving spirit which in a more mature age, combined with religious devotion, made his character interesting.-

In the twenty first year of his age he was married to Mary daughter of Thomas and Mary Wilbur of Hopkinton in the State of Rhode Island, to whom he was an affectionate companion through life.-

He was a believer in the truthes of Christianity as testified of in the Holy Scriptures and in the immediate guidance of the Holy Spirit and being convince of the instability of all earthly things, and the necessity of regeneration, and daly bearing the Cross of Christ he endeavoured, through watchfullness into prayer to walk consistently with so high a profession and was encouraged to seek after a close communion with the Lord, and strenghened in good measure to overcome his natural will and follow the paths of Christian simpicity and self denial.

As a father Guardian or friend he performed his duties with affection and kindness, and was able by his industry and diligence, with the blessing of Providence to supply the wants of a numerous family. He was engaged to promote love and forbearance among his brethren; often in forceing these virtues by citing the example of our divine Master; and he would often say it was better to suffer wrong, than to do wrong to others.

His sympathy and pity for the afflicted were often conspicuous, and he was frequently enabled to give to such appropriate counsil and encouragement, and being easy of access his advice was much sought after.

He was diligent in the attendance of religious meetings and encouraging those under his care to the faithful performance of the same duty- He frequently went in a feeble

State of health and his recent waiting therein as well as in opportunities of retirement at home, were very instructive. He endeavoured through watchfulness to maintain the christian warfare, and when apprehending it required of him he became willing to labour in the ministry, and first appeared in that service in the thirty seventh year of his age. His gift in the ministry was soon afterwards acknowledged by friends.—

In the exercise of his gift, his offerings were attended by an evidence of christian love, in which he was often favoured to minister to individual states, in great tenderness, and in a humble and weighty manner.—

His spirit was remarkably clothed with reverence and solemnity when engaged in vocal prayer.

He several times made religious visits in the neighbouring states, which were salutary and acceptable, as returning certificates shew, from various meetings of friends, and conduced to the peace of his own mind, and he was often usefully engaged in the work of visiting friends families.

In the year 1815 he was visited with a severe illness which terminated in a permanant disease.— His distress during this illness was, at times very great, in which he manifested much patience and resignation. He told his wife, his prospects of forgiveness were as clear as the sun, and to one who enquired after his state of mind he replied. "I feel that peace that I would not exchange for the whole world".—

Altho his disease continued he gradually recovered a comparatively comfortable state, and was again enabled to attend to his social and religious duties.— That charitable and forgiving disposition, the fruit of true christianity, which had been discoverable in his early years shone forth in increasing brightness in advanced life, yet tho mild and unobtrusive he was firm and persevering when duty required, nor was weakness of body suffered to plead for as an excuse for neglect, but using his portion of strength with regularity his exertions turned to good account.—

He was Zealous that the discipline of the Church should be maintained in its purity, and anxious that admonition should be given to offenders in love, and was willing to dig about the unfruitful, and wait with them patiently.—

His exertions were often successful in reconciling differences among our members, so that it may justly be said of him that he was a peace maker.—

He was liberal in promoting works of benevolence. To the poor and suffering he was an unostentatious benefactor. He entertained his friends with kindness and hospitality; and at the same time, was a good example of that simplicity in his domestick concerns which becomes the self denying follower of Christ.—

In his passage through life he met with many trials and afflictions which he bore with meekness and submission. He shewed the sincerity of his profession by constancy and cheerfully under them, remarking that, "they are intended for our instruction and refinement, and that he felt desirous in every trial to adopt the language, not my will but thine be done. In the perusal of the Holy Scriptures he took great delight and was concerned to ~~the daily~~ practice the daily reading of them in his family.—

While thus persuing his Christian course, it pleased unsearchable wisdom to call him hence. About two months previous to his departure, a close trial was permitted to befall him, in the removal by death of a dear child, on which occasion parental feelings were peculiarly manifested. In her departing moments he prayed fervently that she might be received into the mansions of bliss. Another invalid daughter he affectionately endeavoured to console on the occasion by saying, Weep not for her, we have no cause to mourn, she has exchanged this world for one that is better.— And it being observed there is a breach made in your little number which cannot be restored he replied, I know it but we must be prepared to follow and if we can be permitted to meet in heaven what an unspeakable favour it will be.

His health at this time had become feeble, and two weeks previous to his decease, his symptoms assumed a serious appearance, after which he was unable to leave his chamber and

expressed his conviction that he should not recover, & exerted his wife to be resigned to the will of heaven.

His case became more alarming; and tho suffering great bodily pain, yet his patients, fortitude and resignation were great; no repining word escaped him, but he received every affliction as from the hand of a merciful Father, and prayed that his eye might not pity, nor his hand spare until judgement was brought forth unto victory. at another time he was enabled to lay hold of the consoling promise, my grace is sufficient for thee, and to believe in the fulfilment of it, after a severe paroxism of the disease, he prayed to the giver of every good and perfect gift that he might not be permitted to do any thing, but that which might tend to his honor and glory. He spoke of himself as an unworthy creature, resigning all his hopes to the Saviour and magnifying him in all things.

Love the conspicuous feature in his character seemed remarkably to abound in his sickness. He affectionately took all by the hand who approached him, and sent messages of Love to many. He often tenderly embraced his wife and children and expressed his gratitude to those about him for their kind attention to him and gave suitable instruction to his children respecting their future conduct.

Near his close, articulation becoming difficult, he was unable to express much, but the serenity of his countenance and sweetness of his spirit was such as indicated that all is peace within. His work was nearly done his warfare nearly accomplished. little remained but to wait patiently, until his change came, and as the period approached his faith failed not, and he passed quietly away without a sigh or a groan, and we have reason to believe (as he expressed his hope near his close) that he has entered a mansion of glory, there to join the just of all generations in singing praises to Him who alone is worthy.

"Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

He departed this life on the 17th of the 9th mo 1834. aged 64 years.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the aforesaid Monthly Meeting held at

Western the 27th of the 4th month 1835.—

William A. Robinson Clk
Susan C Wilbur Clk.

At Rhode Island quarterly meeting held at East Greenwich the 7th of 5th month 1835.—

The aforesaid Testimony respecting our late beloved friend Abel Collins, deceased, was read and approved, the Womens Quarterly Meeting uniting therein.

By direction of the Meeting aforesaid
Arnold Congdon, Clerk.

Blessed are the Dead that Die in the Lord, from hence forth yea saith the spirit that they may rest from their Labours and their works do follow them.—

Although the subject of this Memoir has been for some time removed from us, yet we believe it right for us to bear Testimony to the Excellence of his character, both as a mark of grateful commemoration of the source from whence all Good proceeds and that the present and future Generations may derive instruction and encouragement by adverting to the course pursued by one whose path may in the emphatic language of Scripture, be said to have been as the shining light that shines more and more unto the perfect day.—

Our late beloved friend Obadiah Brown son of Moses Brown and Anna Brown was born in N. Providence Rhode Island the 15th of 7th mo 1771. From a child he possessed a happy equilibrium of temper united with a remarkable susceptible and ingenuous heart—and by these traits he was peculiarly characterized through the whole of his Life.—he was deprived of maternal care at an early Stage of Infancy, but the parental and christian concern of a rightly qualified Parent Father proved successfull in directing his Youthful steps towards the golden Inclosure and we believe it may with propriety be said that he was "brought up" in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord."—

as he advanced in life, he evinced his allegiance to, and love for the cause of Truth, and Righteousness, by his exemplary deportment, by the humility and contrition of his Spirit, and by his manifesting on all occasions his fellowship and Sympathy with those sincere and devoted Servants of a crucified Redeemer. Many of those can testifie that they have partaken of his genuine hospitality and received from him assistance in the name of a disciple.—

He was industriously and prosperously engaged in Business by which he acquired an ample Estate, but he was particularly careful not to have his Mind absorbed therein to the exclusion of higher and more important objects. and

And he appeared at all times peculiarly to feel, that he was an Almoner of the Lords bounty, his practical benevolence was sensibly felt in the community, at large, and he shared, in an uncommon degree the the affection and esteem of the intelligent and upright of all classes, what was said of a conspicuous Character in former times may in some measure Apply to him — "When the ear heard him it blessed him, and when the Eye saw him it gave witness to him". — His philanthropy was extensive and remarkable — His charities flowed through the Unconfined Channel of Generosity and brotherly Love, the cause that he knew not he sought out Administering to the necessities of the needy, making the widows heart to Sing for Joy, and causing benedictions to rest upon him, from the fatherless and afflicted like good cornelius, his aspirations and his Alms will remain as memorials of him. — In the social relations of Life few men can be found who more fully and perfectly consulted and contributed to, the comfort of those about him, — The filial tenderness and attention he displayed towards his revered and venerable parent ware very striking and are worthy of all imitation — In the third month 1790, he was married to Dorcas Hadwen daughter of John & Elizabeth Hadwen of Newport with whom he lived in much conjugal tenderness during the remainder of his life. The holy scriptures he highly valued and habitually and attentively perused and was much concerned for their diffusion in the world, and to promote this end he left a bequest to Rhode Island Bible Society of which he was an active member. — He was a Zealous Advocate of the principles of Peace, and engaged with much earnestness in diffusing publications calculated to elucidate and establish this important Subject among those who are not of our profession — To the Rhode Island Peace society he left a Legacy in his will — and also one to be divided among the Poor of the various religious denominations of his native Town — His conciliatory manners and affable address were passports for him to the Young, for whose welfare and safe advancement he manifested a deep solicitude. their religious guarded education was with him a subject of the most lively interest, and he was singularly instrumental in the establishment of the early Friends boarding School, an Institution designed to promote this End for with the Youth of our Society — to the funds of this institution he contributed Liberally while Living, and in his Will he bequeathed to it a permanent and very Ample Legacy which as it continues to be Appropriated according to the Intentions of the donor, will not fail with the divine blessing to be a lasting benefit to the present and Succeeding generations. — To this School he gave much personal Attendance visiting it nearly every day, entering into its Concerns and rendering his Advice and Assistance, with an Ardour, which proved how deep was his interest in its welfare; and we trust, that neither its present nor future inmates, will cease to remember with gratitude and affection the Munificent Source from whence they derive so many Benefits. — He was firmly Established in the doctrines of the Christian Religion Looking for Salvation Unto Jesus Christ our Lord, the Author and Finisher of the Saints Faith — And while few will be found, who now fully Acknowledge

Acknoledge the necesity of Obedience to the guidance of the Holy Spirit or believe more implicitly in the efficacy of his Baptiseing and Sanctifying influ ances upon the heart, he did not fail to discover and acknoledge our dependance on the Mediatorial Sacrifice of Jesus Christ on Calvaries Mount without the Gates of Jerusalem. — Thus established in the truths of the Gospell they were precious to him and he was firm in maintaining them, Wisely discriminating between the spirit of anti Christ which Scatters and divides and the effects of that faith which gathers into quietness and peace, he was much attached to the Testimonies of our religious society and supported with a Zeal according to knoledge its excellent Discipline; always manifesting in his own example his adherence to its salutary restraints. —

He sustained to the advantage of the precious cause in which he was engaged various Offices in our Society and occationally spend a considerable portion of time in traveling with Friends who were traveling in the Ministry. —

In the 7th Mo 1822 he was appointed to the Station of an Elder He closed his useful and estimable Life the 15th of 10th Month 1822 in the 52d year of his Age after an Illness of short duration and Attended comparitively with Little Sufferings — in the course of its continuance his expressions were few, but the Sweetness and Serenity of his Spirit clearly Manifested its preparation for the solemn change being entirely sensible of its Approach and resigned to the event. "Mark the perfect Man and behold the Upright for the end of that Man is peace".

Signed in behalf and by direction of Providence Monthly Meeting held at Smithfield the 30th of 12th Mo 1835. Samuel Boyd Jobery Clerk Sarah Searle Assistant Clerk.

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting held at Providence the 4th of 2d Month 1836. The afore written Memorial concerning our late beloved Friend Obadiah Brown deceased was read and Approved

Arnold Congdon Clerk
Lydia C. Smith Clerk

The following Memorial, concerning our beloved Friend Daniel Howland, deceased, was read in this Meeting and approved, having the unity of our womens Meeting herein; and the Clerk is directed to sign the same on behalf of this Meeting, and forward it to our next Quarterly Meeting.—

" Blessed are those servants whom the Lord, when He cometh, shall find watching" — Luke 12 — 37.—

It appears not only desirable, but a Christian duty to preserve some brief Memorial of our dearly beloved Friend and Brother, Daniel Howland, deceased— He was born at East Greenwich, in the State of Rhode Island, on the 24th of 12th month, 1754. He was the son of Daniel Howland and his mother's name (previous to marriage) was Philadelphia Brownell— They gave the subject of these Memoirs a guarded and virtuous education.— In very early life, he became sensible of Divine impressions, which, with the pious precepts and example of his Parents, restrained him from following many of the vain fashions and customs of the world, and he was thus mercifully preserved, in a good degree of uprightness of conduct and conversation, through the earlier walks of life— And as he approached the stature of a man, he witnessed the operations of Divine Grace, increasingly to restrain his natural propensities and inclinations, and to bring his mind, in a greater degree, under the Redeeming power of the Cross of Christ, and was made to bow under its sanctifying and reconciling influence. In this state of humiliation and

abasement of self, he was brought near to the pit of despair; and for many weeks, his mind appeared to suffer inexpressible anxiety and distress: but He who knew the integrity of his heart, and what was best for him, in due time restored him to the light of his glorious covenant of Grace, and enabled him to sing praises to his Redeemer, as on the banks of deliverance — not far from this time, he first appeared in public Ministry, in a few words, in that humility and simplicity of manner, which rendered his Testimony acceptable to his friends — He was early employed in the concerns of the Society of Friends, the welfare of which, he gave evidence, through the whole of a long life, that he was earnestly engaged to promote, and its peculiar Testimonies to maintain. — He was often engaged in public and in private, to encourage those with whom he associated, to live in love, and in the exercise of charity and good feelings toward each other — and such appeared to be the prevalence of Christian charity, love to God, and love to man, that it became one of the most striking and common features of his public Testimonies. Although his charity and liberal feelings were generally manifested in his intercourse with his fellow men, he was careful not to compromise or let fall any of the Christian Doctrines, as held and believed in, by the Society of Friends; being through life, an unshaken believer in, and supporter of (according to his measure) the Gospel dispensation, introduced by the coming of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, confirmed by his mighty works,

sufferings, death, resurrection and ascension, and perfected in his becoming our Intercessor and Advocate with the Father, and the giving of the Holy Ghost, or Holy Spirit— And when sentiments were advanced, lessening or denying his Divinity, his office the efficacy of his sufferings and death, as set forth by the Evangelists and Apostles, he would occasionally remark, that without a belief in these fundamental principles, he could not see, on what ground, any one could justly lay claim to the appellation of a Christian—

He travelled but little, on a religious account, out of the limits of his own Yearly Meeting, and not very generally over that— With the approbation of his Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, he attended the Quarterly Meetings of Nine Partners and Easton, and some other Meetings in the State of New York, in the year of 1814, bringing back from several of the Meetings he visited, written evidences, that his company and labors of love had been acceptable to those, whom he visited.—

Notwithstanding our beloved Friend had been mercifully favored to experience much of the consolations of Divine Grace, and made partaker of the good Word of life, yet his great and gracious Creator saw meet, in his inscrutable wisdom, to suffer his faith, again to

be tried, even as to an hairs breadth— and for many months, he was left to feel, as though his lot was cast, as in a desert land, where there was neither dew, nor rain, nor field of offerings, and, as it were, to call in question all his former experiences— Although hope had thus lost its cheering influence, and faith had ceased to exert its sustaining power, yet his Holy Redeemer did not cast him off, but in his wonted goodness, brought him up again, as from the pit, and established his goings, and enabled him, to sing songs of thanksgiving and praise, and in deep humility, to acknowledge, that through the merits of Redeeming love, he had been brought out of great adversity, and his soul made to rejoice with joy unspeakable—

In 1818, he obtained a certificate from his Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, to attend the Yearly Meetings of Pennsylvania and New York, and some Meetings belonging thereto, which visit he accomplished, and brought back with him Testimonials, that his visit had been acceptable to Friends—

Here it may be proper to introduce a few remarks, which are in his own hand writing, and were, evidently, intended to be preserved— viz— "1832 2 month 10th— It seemed with me to record a few of the gracious dealings of Divine Providence with me, even in very early life, in that he hath, at times, poured forth of his blessings upon me, both temporal and spiritual,

whereby my heart has been tendered, and I have to be favored to return thanksgiving and praise to Him, who, is alone worthy of all praise— And this saying has often been consoling to my mind,— "Keep my commandments, saith Christ "so shall ye abide in my love, even as I have kept my Fathers commandments, and abide in his love." This has appeared to me above all things desirable, for mankind to abide in Divine Love (As this is our experience, we may in our day, be favored to feel in degree, the same renewings of the Holy Ghost, that made the Prophets and Apostles in their day, truly alive unto God, and to experience indeed, that the name of the Lord is a strong tower, to which the righteous flee in every time of trial, and are safe."

As a husband, he was invariably kind and affectionate; as a father, tender and compassionate uniformly manifesting an ardent desire for the present, and above all, for the everlasting felicity of every member of his family— and in all the relations of social life, exhibiting in no ordinary degree, kindness and benevolence of heart.

His situation though far from affluent, was such as to enable him to entertain his friends, and to impart something to the comfort of others, who stood in need, and in both, manifested

"Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching" —

It appears not only desirable, but a Christian duty to preserve some brief Memorial of our dearly beloved Friend and Brother Daniel Howland, deceased, — He was born at East Greenwich in the State of Rhode Island on the 24 day of 12 month 1754 — He was the son of Daniel Howland and his Mothers name (previous to her Marriage) was Philadelphia Brownell ——

They gave the Subject of this Memoir, a guarded & virtuous Education — In very early life, he became sensible of Divine impressions, which with the pious precepts and example of his Parents restrained him from following many of the vain fashions and customs of the World, and was thus mercifully preserved, in a good degree of uprightness of conduct and conversation, through the earlier walks of life: And as he approached to the Stature of a Man, he witnessed the Operations of Divine Grace, increasingly, to restrain his natural propensities and inclinations and to bring his mind in a greater degree under the Redeeming power of the Cross of Christ and was made to bow under its sanctifying and reconciling influence — In this State of humiliation and abasedness of self, he was brought near to the pit of Despair — And for many weeks, his mind appeared to suffer inexpressible anxiety & distress. But He who knew the integrity of his heart, and what was best for him, in due time restored him to the Light of His glorious covenant of Grace and enabled him to sing Praises to his Redeemer, as on the Banks of deliverance.

Not far from this time, he first appeared in Public ministry, in a few words, in that humility and simplicity of manner which rendered his Testimony acceptable to his Friends —

He was early employed in the Concerns of the Society of Friends; for the welfare of which, he gave evidence, through the whole of a long life that he was earnestly engaged to promote; and its peculiar Testimonies to maintain, ~~as the only other Christian Testimonies equally [illegible] other professors of the Christian Name~~ —

He was often engaged in Public and in Private, to encourage those with whom he associated, to live in Love, and in the exercise of Charity & good feelings towards each other — And such appeared to be the prevalence of Christian Charity, Love to God and Love to man, that it became one of the most striking and common features of his public Testimonies —

Altho his Charity and Liberal feelings were generally manifested in his intercourse with his fellow men, he was careful not to compromise or let fall any of the Christian Doctrines as held and believed in, by the Society of Friends — being through life an unshaken believer in, and supporter of according to his measure the Gospel Dispensation — Introduced by the coming of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ, confirmed by His mighty Works, Sufferings, Death, Resurrection and Ascension, and Perfected in His becoming our Intercessor or Advocate with the Father & the giving of the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit —

And a

And when sentiments were advanced, tending to denying His Divine
His Office, the efficacy of his Sufferings and Death, as set forth by the
Evangelists & Apostles, he would occasionally remark, that without
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He travelled but little on a religious account out of the
limits of his own Yearly Meeting, and not very generally over that.
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some other Meetings in the State of New York in the year 1814
bringing back with him from several of the Meetings he visited
written evidences that his company and Labors of Love had been
acceptable to those he visited —

Notwithstanding our beloved Friend had been mercifully
favored to experience much of the consolations of Divine Grace
and made partaker of the good Word of Life — yet his great & gracious
Creator saw meet, in his inscrutable Wisdom, to suffer his Faith
again to be tried even as to an hairs breadth — and for many months
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songs of thanksgiving and Praise, and in deep humility, to
acknowledge, that through the merits of Redeeming Love
he had been brought out of great adversity, and his soul
made to rejoice with joy unspeakable —

In eighteen hundred & eighteen, he obtained a Certificate from
his Monthly & Quarterly Meeting to attend the Yearly Meetings
of Pennsylvania and New York, and some meetings belonging
thereto, which Visit he accomplished, and brought back with
him Testimonials that his visit had been acceptable to
Friends —

Here it may be proper to introduce a few remarks which
were preserved in his own hand writing and were evidently intended to be

preserved. ~~[illegible]~~ — Vid. 1832 — 2d mo. 10. "It seemed with me to record a few of the gracious dealings of Divine Providence with me even from my very early life. ~~Youth~~ — ~~In early life, I remember this consideration to fix in my mind, perhaps I might be seven years old, that if I never did wrong, after I was ten years of age, I should be sure to go to Heaven. Perhaps I might be desirous of putting off the time of full dedication. And since that period~~ He hath at times poured forth of his blessings upon me, both Temporal & Spiritual, whereby my heart has been tendered, and I have desired to be favored to return thanksgiving and praise to Him who is alone worthy of all praise — And this Saying has often been consoling to my mind, "Keep my commandments" saith Christ "so shall ye abide in my Love, even as I have kept my Fathers commandments and abide in his Love". This hath appeared to me above all things desirable, for mankind: to abide in Divine Love. As this is our experience, we may in our day be favored to feel, in degree, the same renewings of the Holy Ghost, that made the Prophets and Apostles, in their day, truly alive unto God; and to experience in deed — That the Name of the Lord is a Strong Tower, to which the Righteous flee, in every time of trial, and are safe" —

As a Husband he was invariably kind & affectionate; as a Father tender and compasionate; uniformly manifesting an ardent desire for the present, and above all for the everlasting felicity of every member of his family — And in all the relations of Social life, exhibited in no ordinary degree, kindness and benevolence of heart —

His situation, tho far from affluence, was yet such as to enable him to entertain his Friends, and to impart something to the comfort of others, who stood in need, and in both, he manifested peculiar satisfaction — He often expressed his confidence in Divine Goodness by saying — "That he believed, that if he did as well as he knew (in reference to Divine requirings) he should not fail of having sufficient. Which was rather remarkably exemplified — and ~~for~~ which he did not fail, gratefully to acknowledge ——

His mind was often deeply interested, when contemplating the situation of the people of colour in this Country, both as it respected the Aborigines and those of the African Race; often expressing a desire, that the precept or command of our Saviour, That of doing unto others as we would others should do unto us, might be extended unto

unto them, that as they might enjoy the blessings of civil & religious Liberty, which a gracious Creator designed, alike for them as for us —

In his Life and Conversation, he gave evidence of having day by day, spiritual union & communion with his Gracious Creator, through the medium of the Holy Spirit — and we doubt not, that under its influence and Holy Help, he was walked so to walk by Faith, as endeavoring to do the Divine Will, as to receive the Testimony, before he was taken hence, one formerly had, "That he pleased God" —

For some years before his decease he had been affected with bodily disease in such manner, as to give just reason to apprehend, that his life would terminate suddenly; of which he appeared to be very sensible, and divers times observed, that it was not very important in what way, if he was prepared — And when the awful moment came and the agonies of death were upon him (which lasted nearly three hours) when at intervals he was able to speak, he appeared perfectly calm and undismayed, as one whose Faith failed not —

Thus terminated a long life, devoted above all other considerations to Love serve & obey his Holy Redeemer, walking in the footsteps of the righteous, who had gone before him, and obtained a resting place; and we are thankful in believing, that through the mercy and loving kindness of God in Christ Jesus he has received a righteous mans reward — "Verily there is a reward for the righteous, verily he is a God who judgeth in the earth" —

He died early in the morning of the 23 of 2 month 1836 and was interred in Friends burying place on the 24 of the same, after a very large and solem meeting — Aged 77 years and about eight months —

The foregoing Memorial Concerning our beloved friend Daniel Howland Deceased was read and approved by Greenwich Monthly meeting held at Coweset 2d of 5th Mo. 1836

Signed on behalf and by order of said Meeting

William Reynolds Clerk
Freelove Greene Clerk for the day

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting held at East Greenwich the 5th of 5th mo. 1836.

The aforewritten Memorial was read and approved — Arnold Congdon } Clerks
Hannah [illegible]

peculiar satisfaction. He often expressed his confidence in Divine Goodness by saying, "That he believed that if he did as well as he knew how (in reference to Divine requirings) he should not fail of having sufficient, which was rather remarkably exemplified, and which he did not fail, gratefully to acknowledge. —
His mind was often deeply interested, when contemplating the situation of the people of colour in this country, both as it respects the Aborigines, as well as those of the African race; often expressing a desire, that the precepts or commands of our Saviour, that of doing unto others, as we would others should do unto us, might be extended unto them, that so they might enjoy the blessings of civil and religious liberty, which a gracious Creator designed alike for them, as for us. —

In his life and conversation, he gave evidence of having, day by day, spiritual union and communion with his gracious Creator, through the medium of the Holy Spirit: and we doubt not, that under its influence and holy help, he was enabled so to walk by faith, endeavoring to do the Divine will, as to receive the testimony, before he was taken hence, one formerly had, "That he pleased God."
For some years before his decease, he had been affected with bodily disease, in such manner, as to give just reason to apprehend, that his life would terminate suddenly, of which he appeared to be very sensible, and divers times observed, that it was not very important in what way, if he was but prepared. — And when the awful moment came, and the agonies of death were upon him (which lasted nearly three hours) when, at intervals, he was able to speak, he appeared perfectly calm and undismayed, as one whose faith failed not.
Thus terminated a long life, devoted above all other

considerations, to love, serve and obey his Holy Redeemer, walking in the footsteps of the righteous, who had gone before him, and obtaining a resting place. And we are thankful in believing, that through the merits and living kindness of God in Christ Jesus, he has received a righteous mans reward. — "Verily, there is a reward for the righteous, verily, there is a God, who judgeth in the earth." —— He died early in the morning, on the 23d 8mo. 1834 — and was interred in Friends burying place, on the 24th of the same, after a very large and solemn meeting. — Aged 79 years and about 8 months.

A Testimony from Scabrook Monthly Meeting concerning Abigail Miller.

Our esteemed Friend Abigail Miller, late wife of Jonathan Miller, of Pittsfield, New Hampshire, was the daughter of John and Mary Folsom, of Sandwich, Strafford County, N. H., both members of our religious Society.

She was born the 8th of the 3d mo. 1788, and became a member of this Monthly Meeting in 1818; and at that time, she was evidently under the Masters preparing hand for future usefulness: having been made sensible at times, even from early life, that if she was faithful to the manifestations of Divine Light in her own mind, it would be her lot, publickly to espouse the cause of her Divine Lord and Master.

After many close trials and deep provings, through which it was her lot to pass, she was enabled, through obedience to Him, who alone can qualify his servants for his work, to occupy that gift, which He was pleased to bestow upon her, much to the satisfaction of her friends.

She had not the advantages of an early education, that many have, yet it pleased her Divine Lord and Master to bestow upon her those gifts, which rendered her, by the faithful improvement thereof, very useful in the Church.

After she was approved as a minister, in 1829, she was frequently engaged abroad, in the service of Truth, among Friends and others, in different parts of this Yearly Meeting, and also made

one religious visit within the limits of New-York Yearly Meeting.

She was frequently engaged in visiting families, not only when abroad in the service of Truth, but also in her own Monthly Meeting, a service for which she was qualified, being enabled in a peculiar manner, to point out the states and situations of individuals with great clearness, as many of us have experienced to our great encouragement and comfort. In her communications in the ministry, she was weighty and impressive, and carefully waited to know the right time to move; in doctrine, sound and edifying, and often led publickly to advocate the doctrine of the Divinity of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and to preach salvation to others, through the mediation and propitiation, sacrifice of a crucified Redeemer; and she lived and died firm in the belief, that there was, and always would be, a remnant preserved, who would faithfully maintain these precious doctrines of primitive Christianity, as held forth by our worthy ancestors; although she apprehended (as she frequently said in her last sickness) that severe trials and deep provings were coming upon our Society, and expressed a belief, that if she should be raised from her present sickness, it would be her lot to experience new and, at present, hidden trials, but whether she lived or died, it was her greatest desire, that the Lords will might be done.

In her domestic circle, she was an affectionate wife and a tender mother, carefully endeavoring

to bring up her children, in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Although she was of a delicate constitution, and often suffered much from bodily infirmity, yet she was a diligent attender of her own Quarterly, Monthly, and particular Meetings. —

In a large circle of friends and acquaintance, she was much beloved; easy of access, cheerful in conversation, kind and sympathizing in her feelings; and being acquainted with sorrows herself, she knew well how to administer consolation to others. She was truly, a nursing mother to the afflicted of every condition, within the reach of her benevolence; and we believe her loss is deeply felt, not only by those of our own religious Society, but by others of her acquaintance, generally. ——

In her death, we feel that the Church sustains a great loss. One who filled a conspicuous station has been removed; and while we contemplate this, may we be willing in faithful obedience to walk in the same path, which, we believe, was an exercised one, not only for herself, but for the welfare of the Church, the prosperity of Zion, and the enlargement of her borders. ——

She bore a distressing illness of several months, with much patience and christian resignation. She expressed, that during much of the time of her confinement, she had been tried with depression of spirit, very much divested of every thing good, while a flood of temptations poured in upon her weak mind; that she felt the need, the great need of watchfulness and prayer. Yet, at times, she felt the consoling evidence of the Fathers love, and said, she felt herself reposing in the arms of her

dear Redeemer, with great delight.
For several days previous to her departure, she was sensible, that She was drawing near her final close, and entreated her weeping family, to cheerfully give her up, as there was nothing in her way, that her work was done. Just before her final close, she broke out in an audible fervent supplication for herself, her family, and the Church. Her request relative to herself, was evidently granted; and she soon passed away, without a groan, or a struggle; like one going into a sweet sleep. the 29th of the 11th mo 1835. And we doubt not, that her purified spirit has entered that mansion, prepared for the righteous in the Kingdom of her dear Redeemer, there to join the anthems of praise to his name forever.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Seabrook Monthly Meeting of Friends held at Seabrook, 7th. of 4th mo. 1836.

Thomas Folsom, Clerk of day.
Elizabeth Gove, Clerk.

At Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Seabrook 16th of 8th mo 1836.
The foregoing testimony concerning our late beloved friend, Abigail Mills, was read and approved; and it was directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting.

Wm. Bagot
Miriam Newhall } Clerks

A Memorial of Weare Monthly Meeting, held 10th of 8th. month, 1837, concerning Thomas Davis, deceased.

Our beloved friend, Thomas Davis, was born in Amesbury, Massachusetts, in the sixth month, 1753. We have nothing special to remark concerning him, till about the year 1790, when he removed with his family, to Acksworth, New Hampshire. He had not then, (as some of us have heard him relate,) united in membership with any religious society, but was seeking the right way. He attended the meetings of several denominations of professing Christians, but did not unite with any of them, nor in that way, find peace and satisfaction to his troubled mind. His burden grew heavier and his prospects more gloomy, till at length, he was constrained to look to the Lord alone for help; after which he spent a portion of the first day of the week, and sought other opportunities for retirement, alone. In some of these seasons, his mind being drawn into true silence, the way of life and salvation through Jesus Christ was mercifully opened to his view, to the satisfaction and joy of his heart.

Thus without much, if any, outward help, except the Holy Scriptures, and some Friends' writings, he was convinced of the truth of the principles, professed by our religious society, and became a member of this Meeting, in the year 1803. At this time, the place of his residence was nearly forty miles from any settled meeting of Friends, and he used to have seasons of religious retirement in his family, on first days, and generally attended our Monthly Meetings. He continued this practice for a num-

ber of years, occasionally receiving visits from Friends, and, sometimes, ministering Friends appointed meetings at his house, notice of which being given to his neighbours, they generally attended; and in the course of a few years, some of them were so far convinced of the principles of Truth, as held by us, as to become members of the Society, and regular meetings were held at his house, for a number of years, till a meeting house was built in 1820, and the meeting held there.——

He was humble in spirit, a lover of retirement, an exemplary and useful member of Society, and frequently appointed to important services. He was an elder in good esteem, and for several of the last years of his life, often had a few words to communicate in our meetings, which were generally well received by Friends. He was a diligent attender not only of the particular meeting, to which he belonged, but also of our Monthly, Quarterly and Yearly Meetings; neither the length of the journey, the inclemency of the weather, nor the infirmities of old age, hindered him from meeting with his friends, on these occasions, when he was able to ride. On first day, 3d. of the 8th. month, 1834, he attended meeting at Unity, (the place of his residence) for the last time; in which he spoke with weight and solemnity, of the importance and necessity of being inwardly gathered, when assembled for Divine worship, in order to be benefitted thereby. On 4th. day following, he was confined to his house by the typhus fever. On 7th. day, a number of

his friends and neighbors coming in to see him, he told them, that he had desired for a long time to see some of them, and it was not likely, he should have another opportunity. He lamented the degeneracy of the times; said he was afraid the right way was missed by many, and desired that all might look about them, and see where they where— He added, "the grand enemy is trying to deceive every one that he can, making use of the fashions and customs of the world to ensnare the minds of the people, and draw them into the follies and vanities thereof;" that time was uncertain; and desired that these things might be taken into consideration by all, that he had much on his mind, but did know as he should be able to say much more; he remarked, in substance, that Jesus Christ remained to be the way, as much now as in the days of his flesh, when He was rejected by the Jews, on account of his humble and mean appearance. His strength then failing, he said, he must stop. First day, the 10th. a friend observed to him, that he supposed he did not expect to recover, he replied, that he had not much prospect of it, and added, "I am waiting for my change to come." After this, he said nothing respecting his final close, that could be understood. He said but very little in the time of his sickness, which he bore with much patience, and continued to grow weaker and weaker till 2d day, the 18th, when, about half past six in the morning, he quietly paped away, without a struggle or groan, in the eighty second year of his age.

Signed on behalf of said Meeting, Joseph Hoag Clerks.
Mary Paige

Signed by direction and on behalf of Salem Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Weare, 19th of 10th. mo. 1837.

Wm. Bassett
Miriam Trenthall } Clerks.

As most of the members of this Meeting were acquainted with this, our deceased friend and brother, it appears but just to add to the foregoing Testimony, that we have been witnesses, particularly at our Yearly Meetings, to the Christian simplicity and humility, in which he appeared honestly to labor for the discharge of his religious duties, which were to the satisfaction and comfort of his friends, evincing that he was an Elder, worthy of double honor.

Signed by direction and on behalf of a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Portsmouth, Rhode Island, 9th of 6th mo. 1838.

Thomas Howland, Clerk.

A Testimony of Swanzey Monthly Meeting of Friends concerning our beloved friend, Daniel Brayton, deceased.

Believing that usefulness may result from preserving some account of the lives of such of our deceased friends as have been remarkable for piety and virtue,— and as the subject of this Memoir was one of that description, we feel engaged to give forth the following Testimony concerning him.

He was born in Newport R.I. on the 16th. of 7th. mo. 1762. of parents, not in membership with us. His mother died, when he was very young. His father, it appears, was engaged to bring up his family in the way of Friends, who with them removed to Swanzey, Mass. in or near the year 1775, soon after which, his father deceased, leaving him and a mother in law, with a family of young children.

About the 16th year of his age, he went to learn the trade of a tailor, with a member of our Society in Providence R.I. It appears he was of a serious turn of mind, and served the time of his apprenticeship to good satisfaction. He then returned to live in Swanzey, and diligently attended Friends' Meetings, manifesting much seriousness; where he soon requested, and was received a member of our Society.—

Being devoted to the cause of Truth, he became useful therein, and appeared to enter into the various services of the Church, with a willing heart, and a ready mind.

For several years, he was in the place of an Overseer, and at the same time, he was frequently made use of in other services, being a zealous promoter of truth and righteousness: he was also concerned that the discipline of the Church might be properly administred. In the year 1802, he was appointed to the station of an Elder, which he filled to the satisfaction of his friends; in which time his Divine Master called him into the ministry— As he was careful in attending thereto, he became an instrument in the Lords hand, in declaring the everlasting Gospel among the people, not with enticing words of mans wisdom, but in the demonstration of the Spirit and of Power, and was, at times, eminently favored with the spirit of supplication. —
His visits in Truths service were not very extensive, yet in addition to those within our own Quarter, he, at times, visited most of the Meetings within the verge of several of our neighboring Quarterly Meetings: and by returning certificates therefrom, it appears, they were performed to good satisfaction. He was a kind and affectionate husband, a good neighbor, free in conversation, seasoned with grace, very diligent in the attendance of all our Meetings, and earnestly engaged to encourage others in this important duty.
He took a lively interest in the welfare of our young friends, often imparting a word of encouragement to them; and when opportunities

presented, he was concerned to introduce serious reading; the intention of which was to incite them to Wisdoms ways. —

Although his outward circumstances were limited, yet by strict attention to his occupation, he had enough for the support of his family, and the kind entertainment of his friends, of which he had a large share. In the decline of life, accompanied with bodily infirmities, he went but little abroad, except to attend our Yearly and Quarterly Meetings, which he continued to do, until within a few years of his death — he was favored to attend his own particular Meeting, until near his Close, although with much difficulty; and a short time before his decease, being under appointment with other Friends, he visited part of the families of our Monthly Meeting. In the early part of his last sickness, which he endured with Christian fortitude and resignation, although his bodily sufferings were very great; he observed, "he thought it would be his last," and, calmly, added, "he had no fear of death, for he knew, in whom he had trusted, and safely relied; on that Arm, which never had failed him." During his illness, his mind was often engaged in supplication, not only on his own behalf, but for his beloved friends, whom he was about to leave; which, at one time, was as followeth "Gracious and most merciful Father, if it is consistent with Thy Divine will, be pleased, I beseech thee, to release me from this deep suffering, and take me to Thyself; yet may I be patient and wait the right time, and grant, O merciful Father, the favor of Thy love, unto Thy Church militant, and water it with the dew of Heaven; and be pleased to raise up judges, as at the

first, and counsellor, as at the beginning — all of which I ask in the name of thy Son, the Lamb immaculate." At another time, he exclaimed, "Oh! death, where is thy sting, Oh! grave, where is thy victory." And a few moments before he expired, he was heard to say, "Merciful and Holy Father, receive my spirit," and quietly, departed, without a sigh or a groan, on the 13th of 12th mo. 1836 —

"Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

Signed on behalf and by direction of Swanzey Monthly Meeting, held at Fall River, 10th. mo. 29th. 1838.

Thomas Wilbur, Clerk
Elis. B. Chace Clerk

At Rhode Island Quarterly Meeting held in Providence 2 mo. 7th. 1839 —

A Testimony of Swanzey Monthly Meeting, issued in the Tenth month last, concerning our late beloved friend, Daniel Brayton, deceased, was read at this time, approved, and directed to be forwarded to the Meeting for Sufferings.

Extracted from the minutes
Thos. Jenkins Clerk

The foregoing Testimony was read and approved by this Meeting, and directed to be forwarded to our Yearly Meeting.

From the minutes of a Meeting for Sufferings, held at East Greenwich, 1st of 5th mo. 1839

Thos. Howland, Clerk

Memorial of Ballsalbro Monthly Meeting of Friends, concerning Valentine Meader, deceased.

Valentine Meader, son of Joseph and Abigail Meader, was born on the 6th. of the 8th. mo. 1777, in the town of Durham, State of New Hampshire.

His parents were not members of our Society, at that time; but, afterwards becoming members themselves, they requested for their children; and Valentine was received a member of Dover Monthly Meeting, in the year 1784, being then seven years of age. He early evinced a serious turn of mind, and was remarkable for sobriety and thoughtfulness, during his residence with his parents, which was until about the twentieth year of his age, when, with his father's approbation, he went to reside within the limits of Ferrisburg Monthly Meeting, State of Vermont. Not long after, believing it required of him, to bear public testimony of the Lord's goodness and mercy, he was, through many close baptisms, made willing to submit thereto, and first appeared in the Ministry, in the twenty first year of his age. His offerings though not frequent, were satisfactory to friends, and as his concern increased, he became more and more devoted to the great Master's cause, whereby he was enabled to resign up all, and go forth in Truth's service, clothed with a meek and humble spirit, which was one of the leading characteristics of his life, and adorned the doctrines he held forth to others.

He travelled much among friends and others, during his residence in Vermont; several times attended the Yearly Meeting of New York, of which he was a member, and, at different times, visited extensively,

in that Yearly Meeting ——

In the years 1822 & 23, he performed a religious visit in Ohio Yearly Meeting, which was the most extensive one, he ever made. He also, several times attended New England Yearly Meeting, and made general visits within its limits; in all which, (as appears from some memoranda that he kept,) though deep exercise, trial and proving were his lot, yet he was favored to discharge his duty, to the peace of his own mind, and, as appears by his returning certificates, to the satisfaction of Friends.

In the year 1832, he removed with his family, and settled in our Monthly Meeting. After which, he was industriously engaged in the love of the Gospel, for the promotion of truth and righteousness, both in our Quarterly Meeting, and elsewhere, to our edification and comfort. ——

His health for many years was generally feeble, and not possessing much temporal wealth, it was difficult for him to provide for his family, and attend to the concerns that he believed himself called to perform; under these circumstances, it was many times peculiarly trying to him to leave them, although they had been abundantly cared for by the great Head of the Church, in his absence.

His religious course appears to have been one of much exercise and trial, yet under all, he was preserved in great resignation to the dispensations of Him, who doeth all things well, as he manifested a cheerful sweetness of spirit, not often exceeded

by those, whose path has been less thorny and difficult In the various relations of husband, parent and friend, he was alike kind and attentive; in company his conversation was instructive and interesting. In the exercise of his gift as a minister, he was careful to labor in right ability; ever mindful of the turnings of that Key, which shuts and none can open, and opens and none can shut; hence he often sat in our Meetings, an example of silence, in that pure and spiritual worship, which we believe to be one of the peculiar privileges of the Christian dispensation. —

He was sound in mind and doctrine, and clear in his communications; his manner, when engaged in publick speaking was earnest, yet tender and conciliating; and many of us have a lively remembrance of his pathetic expostulations upon the great duties of our Holy Religion, the necessity of regeneration, and the great and solemn concerns of the souls salvation. —

The following extract from one of his letters, written in 1828, may give some view of the state of his mind at that time. — "How wonderful, and merciful in love is our Heavenly Father, in visiting us not only once, but again and again, to break in upon our hard hearts; for sometimes our minds are, as it were, sealed, and bound with an iron band, and however sensible we may be of our condition, it is not in our power to relieve ourselves, we have only patiently to wait the Lords time, until he shall arise to break the bands, and scatter the clouds; we can then rejoice in Christ our Redeemer, who ever liveth to make intercession for us. How wonderful is the plan of Redeeming love! How is wisdom displayed!

nothing that the poor creature can do, no planning nor contriving of its own will avail anything, but an entire surrender of our own wills to the Divine will."

In the spring of 1837, he laid before his friends a prospect, which had, at times, accompained his mind for many years, of performing a religious visit to friends and others within the limits of New York, Baltimore, Ohio and Indiana Yearly Meetings, and some Meetings, in and about Philadelphia. The weighty concern, together with his feeble health, called forth a general feeling of sympathy with him in so arduous an undertaking, and resulted with the expression of much unity in liberating him to perform that, which he believed, was required at his hands—

From this time, until he left home, which was not till the forepart of 9th. mo. following, his mind appeared to be closely occupied in the love of Truth, amongst his neighbors and friends, and neighboring Meetings, as also in his own, for which he felt greatly interested, often expressing an earnest solicitude, that Friends might be preserved on the right foundation, and make a right advancement— As the time of his leaving drew near, his parting legacy was love and good will, and we believe, he left us in peace May we retain a lively sense of his fervent zeal and humble piety.—

The following from his diary, penned after leaving home, conveys in some degree, the feelings of his mind in parting with his beloved family, the nearest and dearest of earthly ties!—"This great

undertaking has been a close trial to me, but having the unity and sympathy of my beloved family, and friends, it was made somewhat easy to me, and I parted with them in great brokenness of spirit, not knowing that we should ever meet again."—

He proceeded pretty directly to Philadelphia, and attended Meetings, in and about that city; in noting one, 19th. of 10th. mo. 1837, he says, "The dear Master was near in Spirit, and proved to be mouth and wisdom, tongue and utterance; it was, I think, a precious season to most of us; and although I have passed through many lonely hours and discouragements, yet the Lord has been my stay and helper in the needful time; my heart is humbled, and thankfulness pervades my mind"

He pursued his prospect, taking meetings in the way, to Baltimore, where he arrived in time to attend the Yearly Meeting there; thence he proceeded as far as Brownsville, Penn. attending meetings in course, in most of which, he had good service. His health for some time past had been declining, and was now such as to oblige him to lay by, at the House of our Friend, David Binns, in Bridgeport, near Brownsville.—

A little before reaching there, he remarked to his companion, that his prospect seemed closing up, and he believed, he should be released from a great part of what had been before him.— Being under great distress of body, for some days, he was not inclined to much conversation; but, as he became more easy, he conversed cheerfully with Friends who came to see him, and when questioned respecting his journey and future prospects, he answered, that he could not see further than the present time; but if the Lord should raise him up again, he thought he should

not proceed much farther, but how, or in what way the Master would dispose of him, was at present hidden from his view, but that he was praying to the Lord to be submissive to his will: And many times expressed, that as respecting himself, he was not at all anxious, but at times, he felt very desirous once more to see his dear wife and children, if consistent with the Lords will to raise him up. —

An aged Friend coming in to see him observed, that the present might be his last sickness, and if so, desired, he would endeavor to be reconciled to it, adding, that it made but little difference, where we were, when removed hence, if ready for the event. Oh, yes, he answered, that is true, that is all, to be ready; and my dear friend, I think, I have been endeavoring the greater part of my life, to be ready when the dear Master shall see met to call me away; and it is with gratitude I remember the many mercies and favors vouchsafed to me, as well as afflictions, which, I have seen, were intended for my good; and then recurred to the death of his former wife, and that of a son, who diseased while with him from home, on a religious visit. —

During the most of his confinement, his mind appeared to be occupied in meditating upon Heaven and Heavenly things, often engaged fervently in supplication for himself and family, and the Church generally. At one time, he broke forth in the following "lamentation," Oh! what is our poor Society coming to? there seems to be a skimming along upon the surface of things, and an unwillingness to get down to the substance, and become humble before the Lord,

wherefore afflictions and trials await us.
At another time, he said, he had not felt that liberty, in conversation of a worldly nature which many appeared to feel, and he feared that by giving way too much to it, they had sapped the Divine life, and come short of that favor, which they might otherwise have enjoyed, "Oh! said he, the way is strait and narrow."——
His patience was remarkable through the whole of his sickness, and he was frequently heard in supplicating that he might be preserved therein, and kept from a murmuring or repining spirit.——
His disorder advancing, dissolution seemed near at hand, of which he appeared sensible, and almost his last words were, that if it was the Lords will, he was ready to go.——
His breathing grew gradually shorter, and on the 12th day of the 12th mo. 1837, about two o'clock in the afternoon, his purified spirit was released from its earthly tabernacle, aged about 60 years, a minister 39, and, we have no doubt, through redeeming mercy, was admitted to an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away——
In the death of this dear friend, his family and friends have been bereft of a kind and sympathizing friend, and the Church of an upright pillar: and although dead, he yet speaketh.

Signed by direction and on behalf of Vassalboro Monthly Meeting of Friends, held 2 mo. 20th. 1839.

Joseph H. Cole
Eunice Nichols } Clerks.

The foregoing Memorial concerning our beloved friend, Valentine Meader, has been read in this Meeting and approved.

By direction and on behalf of Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held 5 mo. 31st. 1839

Daniel Taber
Sarah A. Jenkins } Clerks

The foregoing Memorial has been read and approved by this Meeting, and directed to be laid before the Yearly Meeting.

Extracted from the minutes of a Meeting for Sufferings, held at Portsmouth. R. I. 6 mo. 15th. 1839

Thomas Howland, Clerk

A testimony of Sandwich Monthly Meeting of Friends, concerning our esteemed friend Browning Swift.

This our belived friend having been a member of this Monthly Meeting during the whole period of his life, and some of our minds still retaining the savor of his exemplary walk and religious labors amongst us, we are desirous of preserving some memorial of his life, and of his expression during his last sickness, for the consolation and encouragement of others who may be inclined to walk in the path of truth;— also to bear testimony to the christian virtues, with which he adorned his profession, and to bring in to remembrance the sufficiency of that Divine Grace, through which he experienced preservation, and was enabled to pursue his christian course, and become truly qualified to promote the cause of righteousness.

Naturally he was of a mild and cheerful temperament, kind and affectionate towards all— as a Christian, he was sound in faith— a believer in all the holy offices of Christ— in his outward coming, wherein he tasted death for every man, and was the propitiatory sacrifice for our sins;— and by taking up his daily cross, and following a meek and crucified Saviour, he could from living experience testify of those offices, and of the benefit of his blood, that was shed without the gates of Jerusalem.

In his conversation he was clean and blameless to a remarkable degree, often seeking occasion to turn the attention of the company he might be in, to religious subjects.

In his public appearances in the ministry, he was careful to move with a single eye to the pointings of Divine Truth, to wait for the arising of the true gospel spring, and to abide under the influence of that baptizing power, which alone can qualify for communicating gospel truths so as to minister grace and edification to the hearers.— His communications were sound and clear, tending to encourage the sincere and honest hearted to hold on their way, and to arouse such as were at ease— and we believe many know him as a tender father in Israel, encouraging and leading them forward as children by the hand.

His religious labors were mostly confined within the

limits of his own Quarterly Meeting — about the year, 1817, he made a religious visit to Vassalborough Quarterly Meeting, and was favored to accomplish the visit to the satisfaction of those with whom his lot was cast; and to the peace of his own mind.

Thus much we thought it encumbent upon us to testify in regard to our deceased friend, and having made these general remarks, we would refer to the following memorial preserved by his wife, which this Meeting approves.

Signed on behalf of Sandwich Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Yarmouth, 3mo. 5. 1841

Newhall Hoxie, Clerk

Hannah Gifford, Clerk for the day.

Browning Swift was the son of Silvanus and Elizabeth Swift of Falmouth, Massachusetts; and was born the 17th of the eighth month, 1780 — This, their son, in early life became anxiously concerned, as he expressed it, to be advanced in the path of the righteous. Many deep baptisms and conflicts of spirit it was his lot to pass through, which he endured with patience, subjecting his will to the Divine will, and thus became as passive clay in the hands of the great Potter, and was prepared as a vessel for the Masters use.

He gave up to an apprehension of duty, and came forth in the work of the ministry, about the 25th. year of his age. He was a diligent attender of meetings for worship, and for discipline; — a kind, affectionate husband, and a tender father; holding up by precept and example, this injunction, Follow me, as I endeavor to follow Christ. It was his frequent practice to sit down with his family in retirement, — and in these seasons, was often favored to testify of the great goodness of the Lord. —

He was sensible of the great responsibility of a parent to his children, and was conscientiously concerned

to instil into the tender minds of his offspring, the principles of piety and virtue.

In his sickness, he observed to a friend, "I cannot express the comfort I have felt in keeping to the operations of Truth in my own mind; the Lord hath shown me the pure state in which our primitive Friends stood; and I have seen clearly, that, when that ancient simplicity and pure state, is again known amongst us, as a society, that then the glory of the Lord will appear, as in the days of our ancients, and his praises be sounded through all the churches: — and I have seen the states of many amongst us, at this day, which is cause of sorrow and of mourning"

During his sickness, it was his lot, at times, to be deeply tried with poverty of spirit; and at one time, said "I feel nothing but infirmities, and I have been almost ready to say, why is it so? — but however trying, I have believed it a safe state, as the waters is kept to; for herein we learn our dependance upon Him in whom all our treasures are. 'As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.'"

At another time, he said, "The returning of the Sun of righteousness is again experienced; the visions of life are opened to my view; and a sweet assurance is granted, that a mansion of rest is prepared for me in heaven. — O, with humble joy do I desire to return thanks to my God for so great a favor; — I have merited nothing, but am an unprofitable servant. — I could add much more of the goodness of the Lord to me at this time, but I desire to be cautious, lest I should go too far in speaking of the many favors and mercies that he has bestowed upon so unworthy a servant as I feel myself to be. And my desire for my dear brethren and sisters in the truth, is, that they may be preserved from all defilement, that they may walk worthy of the vocation wherein they are called with a high and holy call; and may those, who have strayed into by paths, be brought back again, with those who have wandered from the precious fold; and those who have revolted from thee who art the alone Saviour and Redemeer. — Oh, may these return, repent and live. — I am concerned that the Church may arise and shake herself from the dust, and put on her beautiful

garments of righteousness, being prepared as a bride, adorned for her husband; help is laid upon one that is mighty: and the fervent desire of my mind is, that there may be a steadfast looking in all humility, to Him, alone, who is able cleanse and purify the soul, that it may be indeed be prepared, even as a bride adorned."

At another time, he said "I have been looking over our meeting this morning, and desires were raised in my mind that an increasing concern for the well ordering of Society may be witnessed. I hope that those Friends who have the oversight will be faithful and admonish in love, that God's work may be done as in his sight. I do greatly desire that when Friends meet together, in order to worship Almighty God, they may endeavor to meet in his holy fear, and sit down in the silence of all flesh, to wait upon Him for a renewal of strength, that they may know the house of David to grow stronger & stronger. I believe that if there is a gathering in His name, and a dwelling in His fear, He will condescend to raise up judges, as at the first, and counsellors, as in the beginning; for He alone is able to qualify others to fill the places of those whom he sees meet to remove from works to rewards. Oh, may there be an increasing concern with the aged, the middle aged, and the dear youth; the Lord waiteth to be gracious to the workmanship of His holy hand. I have been led to petition on their account, saying, 'Spare thy people O Lord, and give not thy heritage to reproach, that the heathen rule over them. O, strengthen thy dear children here in this place; may the arms of their hands be made strong in Thee, and in the power of Thy might. — When there seems to be an host to encamp against you, do not fear; look singly to your Deliverer. And when there seems to be no way to pass for the mountains of opposition on either side, and the sea before you, remember ancient Israel; the waters were divided for his peculiar people, and they were preserved by an arm of power; and His love is the same to his chosen now, as then; I have experienced it to be so. He is the same yesterday, to day, and forever."

At another time, he said, "I have not followed cunningly devised fables, but living and substantial truths; although, at times, my path is nearly hedged; and for some days past has resembled that of the mariner; I have had stormy days, that I could not take the sun; and starless nights, that I could not see my way; and my little bark was tost as on the mighty ocean; yet this morning, He that formerly said to the boisterous sea "Peace be still," has by the same power quieted my mind with the unerring language, "If thou pass through the fire, it shall not kindle upon thee; or through the waters, they shall not overwhelm thee"; and my head is again lifted up in hope, that if I hold out to the end, I shall inherit the blessed promise; — and the earnest desire of my mind is, that faith and patience, may be granted during the little time, I have to stay here."

At one time, he expressed a desire to see some of his friends, "for," said he, "I am very much exercised on their account." They were invited and came; and he was enabled to relieve his mind in a wonderful manner. He received frequent visits from his friends, during his sickness, with whom he was often dipped into feelings of sympathy, and was frequently exercised in testimony and supplication; and I believe I may say, to the strengthening and refreshing one another's spirits. —

On another occasion, he supplicated thus, "O Lord, thou knowest what is best for us, and necessary that we should pass through, in order to prepare us for thy glorious kingdom, where nothing that is impure or unholy, can ever enter. O, dearest Father, let not thy hand spare, nor thine eye pity, until thou hast made me perfect; then (I hope to be dissolved, and clothed with angels raiment. O, permit me to join them in celebrating thy holy name. And if it be consistent with thy will, grant that the guardian angel of thy presence conduct my poor soul to its everlasting rest."

And then said, "I have this hope, that if my earthly house of this tabernacle be dissolved, I have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens; this is my hope, it is what I have labored for from my youth to the present time, it has been my daily concern to seek the Lord, and to walk in his holy fear, — I esteem it far greater riches than the increase of corn, wine, or oil. I have no merit to plead for; I have merited nothing; and am an unprofitable servant."

At another time, he said, "My time here, I think, cannot be but a little longer, and I hope you will give me up cheerfully to Him, whose right it is to call when and whom it seemeth Him good. I willingly resign myself, my little remaining family, and the Church, unto the Shepherd of Israel; he is a faithful friend; He will be the widow's judge, - and a father to the fatherless, as there is a steadfast relying on Him. - Hold on your way, for He, whom ye seek, is near."
And soon after, said, "I have seen a place of rest from all trouble. I have had a prospect of a quiet resting place, where, I believe, I shall soon enter; and I desire that I may be favored with patience to wait for the time."
At another time, "I do not know as I shall continue through this night. I believe that my dissolution is near, and if it be this night, thy Holy Will be done. Be with me to the end, O, Father; hold me in the hollow of thy hand and conduct me home to thy glorious kingdom of rest and peace. It is peace that I feel; I feel no condemnation. All is peace and quiet, with an apurance mercifully granted, of entering into that city, whose walls are salvation, and whose gates are praise."
At another time, he said, "In the midst of my sufferings, it is a comfort to look upon my wife and only remaining daughter. Do keep to the littleness, with a single eye to your leader, seeking the manna, daily. The Lord knoweth them that love and fear Him; I do believe, he will preserve, strengthen and support you through this trial. I can tell you, that notwithstanding all the sufferings I have to pass through, I would not exchange my situation, if it were in my power, for I am content in the Divine Will, let the time be longer or shorter. Every thing here is fleeting, and soon fadeth away; but the precious evidence of His love, has been as a shadow of a mighty rock in a weary land. I have been much tried with poverty of spirit, and have had to pass through many sore conflicts, at times, during this sickness,

and my faith and patience have been tried as to an hair breadth; then my cry was, Most Holy One, suffer me not to lose my confidence in Thee. Be thou my support in these trying seasons. O, be near and keep my feet that they do not slip, or turn aside from following after Thee. I can say, that I rejoice in tribulation." — And soon after, said, "Yesterday, and to day, I have been looking over Friends, in several places, and I think never felt greater love for them, than at the present time; and I greatly desire their growth and establishment in the ever blessed truth; and I feel this confirmation, that God is love, and they that dwell in him, dwell in love."

At another time, he said, "How amiable are thy tabernacles, O, Lord of hosts, my soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for thy courts; if I have a treasure in regeb that was not old, take me to Thyself. O, dearest Father, be pleased to be near at this time and support me; for I have none in heaven but thee, and none on earth in comparison of Thee. O, be near and hold my head above the waves of Jordan. Be thou my stay, and my exceeding great reward. Be pleased to be near, and support my dear family under their affliction. Be thou near and round about them, as the mountains are round about Jerusalem." — And soon after, said, "I long to go home to my Father's house, for there is bread enough and to spare. — Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly, and take me to Thyself, for I know not but that thy servant is ready."

The day before he died, he supplicated thus, "O, Lord, if it be consistent with thy Holy Will, to take me this night, I shall consider it one of thy unspeakable favors. O, may it be so, Why doth death tarry? Why are the chariot wheels so long in coming? O, come dearest Father, and take me away, and tarry not; for I am waiting, I trust with my lamp trimmed and burning. "But not my will but thine be done. Near the close, he called his wife to him, and said, "Do not mourn for me, for I am prepared to enter into a mansion of rest" and about three hours after, he quietly breathed his last, the 6th of 6 month, 1829, aged 49 years.

At Sandwich Quarterly Meeting, held at New Bedford, 1st of 4th Mo. 1861. The foregoing Testimony and Memorial respecting our late beloved Friend, Browning Swift, deceased, was read, and much unity being expressed therewith, and the Womens Meeting concurring, the Clerks were directed to sign the same on our behalf, and forward it to the Meeting for Sufferings, with a copy of this minute, annexed.

Geo. W. Baker
Mary A. Tucker } Clerks

This book having been mislaid, for a time, ~~to~~ another was
opened with the record of a "Testimony concerning Miss H. Reed"